

Turkey under martial law after bloodless dawn coup

Turkey was under martial law yesterday after a bloodless coup led by General Kenan Evren, Chief of the General Staff. Political leaders, including Mr. Suleyman Demirel, the Prime Minister, and Mr. Bulent Ecevit, the Opposition leader, were detained "for their own safety." General Evren pledged

Turkey's continued loyalty to Nato [Report, page 5]. In London it was hoped that Turkey's difficulties would be overcome sufficiently to allow a return to democracy. EEC officials said there would be no automatic freezing of relations. The United States said aid would continue.

Political leaders taken into custody 'for own safety'

from Simon Wiesenthal, Sept. 12.

Turkey's most senior military commanders, led by General Enver Çiğdem, chief of the general staff, were seized lower in a bloodless coup.

The radio played General Çiğdem's speech in the morning and at about 4.30 a.m. at the time the "first communiqué" of the Nationalist Council signed by General Kuvvet was broadcast.

"The military and the Government have been abolished," the communiqué said. "Marshall has been proclaimed throughout the country, and a new law has been imposed."

Later, it was announced that the players of the Government, Minister Mr. Süleymen, the Opposition leader, Dr. Nezirli, and Mr. Nezirli, President of the Islamic Fundamentalist Nationalist Action Party, were detained.

The communiques said the political leaders had been taken into protective custody by the army for their own safety. Mr. Demirel and Mr. Erbakan were reported to have been sent to a military base in Adana, and Mr. Erbakan to a military base at Üsküdar, in the bay of Ömer. They were under arrest, General Çiğdem later, and would be released when the situation allowed it.

One person, however, was missing. A communiqué from Ankara martial law command said that Mr. Alparslan Türkeş, chairman of the extreme right-wing Nationalist Front, was reported to be "in the hands" of the soldiers.

The martial law command issued on Mr. Türkeş in "turn" over to the nearest military unit for his own safety. Later reports said that Mr. Türkeş had already been detained in Yozgat, central Anatolia town, where his party had a large following, but this could not be immediately confirmed.

Other unconfirmed reports said that Mr. Türkeş had been detained, although General Çiğdem said in a televised speech at some of them would be released. "Other than these who are broken here in the past," he said, "under investigation could be made, but because of their parliamentary community."

Troops were the only people

In keeping with the tradition of the Turkish military, General Evren said that his National Security Council would turn power over to a civilian Cabinet as soon as possible, as the Army has done every time it intervened in Turkish politics.

During General Evren's television speech, he was flanked by the four other members of the council, General Nureddin Ersoy, of the land forces, General Tahsin Sabinbayev who heads the Air Force, Admiral Nezir Tunay, commander of the Navy and General Sedat Celasun, commander of the gendarmerie.

In the speech he promised constitutional reforms as well as changes in the electoral law and in legislation on political parties. He dwelt on the economy and was firm in stating Turkey's foreign policy. The country, he said, would remain a staunch ally of Nato,


on the streets of Istanbul yesterday.

would honour all international agreements, and would continue to have good relations with its neighbours on a basis of "mutual respect and non-interference in domestic affairs."

The general had strong words against the politicians who, he complained, had refused to listen to his repeated attempts to warn them of the danger Turkey had to face.

Irresponsible politicians, he added, had turned a blind eye to the situation for the sake of petty party politics. Referring to the fact that Parliament had failed, in over five months of polling, to elect a new president, General Evren said: "It is no other country in the world that has there been such a waste of time."

Ankara under curfew this morning was totally deserted with the military presence now as imposing as one might have expected.




...terday—to enforce the curfew.

Paratroops of the Command Brigade patrolled the streets politely asking the few civilian passers-by for identification, stopping cars and chatting with the few people who had come out in front of their doors.

At strategic points on the main avenue, the Atatürk Boulevard, and at the exits from the city a regiment of tanks was deployed. Armoured personnel carriers, machine-guns ready for fire, were parked alongside side walks.

In the more popular neighbourhoods, the curfew was observed very casually. In the Sütlüce area, a slum neighbourhood, people were out in large numbers, watching the soldiers and the tanks. A group of boys were playing football in the empty street.

The curfew was lifted in the afternoon and people emerged in large numbers, crowded the cafés, bars and parks and basking in the sun. Everything was



that followed the coup.

peaceful and calm, and there was almost a tangible sense of relief. The curfew was imposed again after nightfall. It was not known whether it would be lifted during the daytime hours tomorrow.

General Evren, aged 62, is one of the most respected military figures in Turkey and has a reputation for always having wanted to keep the Army out of politics. His previous warnings to politicians were paternal 'n' tone rather than threatening.

Flights cancelled: All flights between London and Turkey were cancelled after the coup. A spokesman for Turkish Airlines at Heathrow said: "We are waiting to hear from our people out there." British Airways said it was "keeping the situation under review".

Nato pledge, photographs and general's warning, page 5
Coup that had to happen, page 11

Mr Steel lays claim to Liberal-led government of reform

From Fred Emery
Political Editor
Blackwood

Blackpool

In a speech at Black Steel, the Liberal leader, sought yesterday to lift the spirits of a majority of voters who, he believes, are ready to join him.

"In a fighting speech to the Liberal Assembly at Blackpool last night," said the Liberal Government of Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, "I have put forward my 'conciliation' as the alternative to Mrs Margaret Thatcher or the 'union-redded' Labour Party."

Mr. Steel, preserving all his own towards potential recruits for his coalition, seeks to build up in the coming year and urging purists in his party not to exclude anyone, nonetheless ambitiously insisted that a new government be Liberal-led.

In a peroration that swept his delegation into sustained applause, Mr Steel declared: "We will grasp the initiative. I believe the next general election could see the end of the old politics and the beginning of the new."

The Liberal vote so massive and the number of Liberal MPs so great that we shall hold the initiative in the new parliament. No government can exist without us. We know that many of the other parties will be ready to ally themselves with us once their moment comes."

He went on to Liberals and the progressive wing would come together to form what the country has needed for so long. A Liberalized government, government of partnership and reconciliation."

A message, to Mr Roy Jenkins was: Welcome, but at best as co-leader of a government to which Mr Steel has laid claim. As for the likes of Mrs Shirley Williams, their possible decision to leave the Tories have been written off by Mr Steel.

Scorning whatever happened at Labour's conference through the union black vote as "profoundly backward and unacceptable," Mr Steel said: "fudged compromise" allowing those of publicly proclaimed

ender conscience" to stay hopeful of "picking up places in the next Labour Cabinet".

Mr Steel, speaking with flashes of passion, made a notable new Liberal commitment in calling for a ban on National Front marches through immigrant neighbourhoods.

It was not free speech, he said. "That is nazism and must be resisted by all the legislation that exists to ban such provocative activities".

Mr. Steel assumed he pledged the party's "total and utter support" for ethnic minorities "so cruelly intimidated and harassed".

But, but, said Mr Steel's attack, inevitably Mrs Thatcher. Her economic policy was "in ruins". Mr Steel said the Conservatives must change course, "even if it means dropping the bomb".

He charged that the Government's blind non-intervention was permanently destroying parts of the British economy. "The nation's shoppers, its young, its grims, were now round the Cabinet table in No 10".

Mr Steel derided Mrs Thatcher personally, with unusual bitterness, for what he said was her "stupid view of life" and her passion for confrontation in politics.

The remark he ascribed to her about the unemployed in South Wales "let them move home" was "a sadistic joke" laid down in history alongside "let them eat cake".

He likened her in a first World War personal objective to go on pursuing objectives "at whatever human cost" in defiance of all common evidence, that the strategy has collapsed".

He shouted: "It is not her courage that I question. It is simply her judgment. She is judgmental".

The Thatcher Government, he went on, was one of rejection of persuasion and compromise, and he issued a warning of eventual conflict.

The logic is inescapable. Violent rejection eventually provokes violent action."

Continued on page 2, col 2

Exit elusive Hercules, pursued by a posse

From Ronald Faw
Glasgow, Sept 12

Hercules, the 8ft brown bear, missing for almost three weeks in the Western Isles, was seen yesterday but, graded as a "sighting," leading to no covered mountains on North Uist.

The 40-stone animal headed for freedom on August 21 after his owner took him for a swim on an island near by. No positive trace of Hercules had been seen since. The bear was recovering when a crofter at Barmartin, Tigharry, was setting out to work and saw the bear in front of his neighbour's house. The crofter then notified the nature reserve at Bannalaid.

The alarm was raised and Hercules, who has appeared as "The Big Softy" in television advertisements for toilet tissue, was taken to the reserve by a posse of local people led by the bear's owner, Mr Andy Robbins, a former Commonwealth wrestling champion.

After a chase of several miles the animal was sighted near the moors but he ignored all blandishments and forged ahead once more.

Police called off the chase as Hercules headed into thick scrub. The "Big Softy" of Ben Aulaisray. They said it would have been too dangerous to continue on to the moors in the terrible weather.

Although the local school was closed yesterday, Hercules is unlikely to be dangerous. He was terribly spoilt by the Robbins family, who fed him fish, dog food, cakes, and now and then a pint at the family public house.

The sighting was a great relief to Mr Robbins. Hercules is heavily insured for public liability and he has offered to the person making the sighting leading to his recapture.

Locals, intrigued by the excitement the bear has caused, were yesterday reported to be keen on allowing Hercules to carry on wandering. They hope he might become a sort of abominable bear, rivaling the tales of that other Scottish monster.

Mr Healey rages at recall snub

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Mr Denis Healey, former Chancellor of the Exchequer, last night joined the political battle over the Prime Minister's refusal to recall Parliament, by making a swingeing personal attack on Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

He accused the Prime Minister of being as "pigheaded" and "peremptory" with the Confederation of British Industry as she was with Parliament by rejecting the demand for a further debate on the appalling prospect which she is "spreading for Britain".

Mr Healey may well have been amused at his choice of epithet, as he was speaking in London, Essex, the home of the flush.

Meanwhile, Mrs Thatcher yesterday dismissed Mr Callaghan's "peremptory" charges by informing him in a second letter that she had consulted her principal advisers and was rejecting the request for a recall.

The shadow chancellor said in his speech that Mrs Thatcher "would rather pull down

the pillars of the temple than admit that she can ever be wrong about anything". He added: "Yet she has now broken every single promise she made in the last election, and everyone of her policies has failed."

"She tells us she will stick to the course she has set herself," Healey continued. "But this week's figures show that she is as wildly off course on her monetary policy as on everything else."

In her letter to Mr Callaghan she had said that workers were pricing themselves out of jobs because their wages were less than their earnings faster than the supply of money.

"But she had to admit this week that she has increased the supply of money in the last 12 months faster than they increased their earnings. If her monetarist theories are right, the wages are set to rise or, another rise in inflation in the next 12 months."

She was setting Britain on the road to ruin, and even her own supporters were beginning

to recognize this truth. Mr. Asquith wrote on 7 March, "I think she is frightened to allow Parliament even to discuss how to save Britain from disaster."

The Prime Minister, in her letter to Mr. Callaghan, reiterated her previous statement that monetary supply had increased and that this meant it was crucial to keep government borrowing under control.

She wrote: "The Government are determined to achieve this by carrying out the policies which have been presented to Parliament in the Budget and on many other occasions."

Mrs Thatcher said she had made it absolutely clear in the parliamentary debate on July 29 that if earnings continued to rise at a high rate, employment would go on falling.

"This is why we have repeatedly sought your support in achieving moderation in pay settlements so that our country can establish a sound basis for renewed growth and higher employment," she said.

CBI plea refused, page 17

3L loses £155m in first half of year

lost £155m during the first half of the present financial year. Further heavy losses are expected in the second half and the Government has expected to make an early statement on the future of the group soon after parliament reassembles in October. The pre-tax loss was

£33m more than the loss for the whole of last year when BSL had a pre-tax profit in the first half of £201m. Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of BSL, revealed that government approval will be sought for the launch of the company's new mid-range car, to be known as the LC10. Page 17

Prison deaths reach 44

The number of deaths in custody so far this year has risen to 44 with the second fatality at Leeds jail in three days and the third in the prison

Cuban envoy to UN assassinated

New York, Sept. 12.—The Cuban Mission to the United Nations was turned into an armed camp today after a diplomat was shot dead by an anti-Castro group that had vowed to kill him. A spokesman for the Cuban Representative to the United Nations, next.

Senior Felix Garcia Rodriguez, aged 41, was gunned down last night as he drove through the New York borough of the Bronx. He was the attaché to the Cuban Mission, was the first of United Nations diplomats to be assassinated in New York since the city became host to the organization in 1945.

Responsibility for the murder was claimed by "Omega 7," an anti-Castro terrorist group that has killed other pro-Castro Cubans. The group once tried unsuccessfully to blow up Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Pro-Castro Cubans in New York said they feared the Cubans might try to avenge Sen. Garcia's murder.

A few minutes after the midnight shooting, a phone to New York radio organizations and a man with a heavy Spanish accent said Sen. Rosa would be the group's next target.

In Havana, the official daily newspaper, *Granma*, today accused the United States of failing to suppress anti-communist terrorists.

Havana radio called Sen. Garcia's slaying a "cowardly murder" and said: "These terrorist bands are the authors of the anti-Cuban and anti-American slanders against our diplomatic representation at the United Nations."—Reuter and AP.

Inflation rate falls to 16.3% during August

By David Blake
Economics Editor

The smallest monthly rise in the retail index for more than a year has brought the annual inflation rate in August down to 16.3 per cent. In July the annual rate was 16.9 per cent.

The fall brings unexpected good news for the Government: prices are rising less rapidly than the Government target for the year end, and many public sector workers may have to be paid less than the system to be included in the index and industrial costs continue to increase.

The retail price index in August went up to 268.5 from 267.9 in July. As always, the annual rate is the sum of the year's seasonal food prices fell so that 0.2 per cent increase during the month gives an optimistic view of inflation.

But even if seasonal foods are excluded, the prices found for August are still the lowest since the start of the year. The underlying rate of inflation over the previous 12 months fell to 17.3 from 19.1 per cent in July.

At the heart of the easing of price increases is a reduction in the demand for luxury goods. Shops are holding prolonged sales, to reduce stocks which they cannot afford to finance because of high interest rates.

Imports are becoming even more competitive because of the strength of sterling. The pound's high exchange rate means that foreign producers value their gains in foreign currencies less.

But the strong pound also helps British manufacturers by

High vote for Chile President

From Our Correspondent
Santiago, Sept. 12

President Pinochet, who received 67.6 per cent of the votes in yesterday's election, has denied accusations of a fraud. Speaking at Government headquarters today he said: "Somebody has been a fraud... The vote was secret. The counting of the vote was public. We would not accept a fraud."

The vote for the president was marginally higher than had been anticipated by informed observers but the vote was never in doubt. The justice of the win was obvious to all.

Referring to the Claire White affair President Pinochet said he did not know what the outcome would be. Chile's executive did not interfere in judicial matters.

Earlier the President had said that Chile was "very respectful of human rights". He accused other countries of "applying a double standard."

Leading article, page 13

Buying Dewar's
is like hooking a
salmon when you
expected a trout.

Dewar's

Possibly a touch more expensive,
always unquestionably smoother.

Yard to interview two men held in Chicago

By Craig Seton

Two men arrested in Chicago in connection with a film jewelry robbery in Knightsbridge, London, 11 hours earlier were linked to a car hired in London and bookings on a flight from Heathrow, Scotland, said yesterday. A \$30,000 reward was offered for the recovery of the gems.

Joseph Scalise and Arthur Rachel, both aged 42, of Chicago, were arrested by FBI agents at the city's airport when they arrived on a direct flight from London. Yesterday they appeared in court in Chicago charged with conspiracy to commit interstate theft and were held in custody for questioning.

The men were scheduled to meet \$200,000 bailsmen at the airport.

Scotland Yard said it was preparing a formal request for extradition. The FBI in Chicago said the men would remain in custody pending further hearing or an order for their extradition.

Senior officers yesterday denied the recent, timely or events that followed the armed raid by two men at Graff's jewellers in Brompton Road at about 11 am on Thursday. Among the 20 items taken was a necklace containing a \$400,000 diamond formerly owned by the late Dowager Duchess of Marlborough.

The number of a car leaving the scene of the robbery was taken over by the Metropolitan by Capital Radio. A member of the staff of Hertz at Marble

Arch realized that it was similar to one on a green Fiat Mirafiori rented earlier in the week. The company provided the police with the names of two men from Illinois and their room numbers at the Mount Royal Hotel.

The police established that the men had left the hotel and asked British Airways to check passenger lists for flights from Heathrow to America. Although a British Airways flight left at 11:35 pm, Scotland Yard was reasonably certain by 4 pm that the men were on the flight.

The FBI was alerted, and within 24 hours had landed at Chicago at 10:30 pm. British time Mr Scalsie and Mr Rachel were arrested by FBI agents.

Their baggage and the plane were searched but nothing was found.

Det Chief Supr Michael Taylor, head of the Robbery Squad, said yesterday that he was keeping a close eye on the jewelry store's whereabouts of the jewelry, but many inquiries would be made. The reward would be offered by insurance assessors.

He expected that a senior police officer would fly to Chicago to interview the two men about the robbery, "and a number of other matters," and a request would be made for their extradition.

The great detective, Mifflin was found in the Victoria area of London last night and was being examined by scientists.

Dewar's
Possibly a touch more expensive,
but always unquestionably smooth.

e News	3-4	Crossword	24	Services	14
ean News	4	Engagements	14	Sport	15, 16
ean News	5-6	Features	12	T.V. & Radio	9
	8	Gardening	11	Theatre, etc	8, 10
ic	10	Letters	14	Travel	14
ness	12-3	Obituary	14	25 Years Ago	14
s	14	Sat. Review	7-11	Weather	2
t	14	Science	14	Wills	14

HOME NEWS

Concern as prison deaths rise to 44 this year after second fatality at Leeds in three days

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office has been told that the number of deaths in prison has risen to 44 this year after a second fatality at Leeds in three days.

Mr Neil Hemmings, who has been sent to prison, was found dead in his cell at Leeds on September 11. He had been in prison for 12 months and was 31 years old.

There have been 44 deaths in prison since the start of the year. The Home Office has been told that the number of deaths has risen from 39 in 1979 to 44 in 1980.

Parliamentary concern about deaths in prison has been mounting, although how many of the 44 people who died took their own lives is not yet known.

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Mental health Act changes promised

Lucy Hodges

There is still a great deal to be done in Britain to achieve the standards of care which patients in a civilised society should expect to see, Mr Patrick Kin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday.

Mr Kin said that the Home Office was committed to the improvement of mental health care. He said that the Home Office was committed to the improvement of mental health care.

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Airport night noise ban date may be advanced

By Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent

The Government is considering a night noise ban at Heathrow and Gatwick, the two main London airports, after a three-year study of sleep disturbance among people living around the airports.

The intention to phase out by 1987 all night movements by noisy aircraft in favour of those with the new generation of quieter engines has been reaffirmed in the light of the study.

The Department of Trade said yesterday the study did not support a case for either the closure of the airports at night or the abandonment of restrictions on movements by the quieter aircraft.

The report provided a scientific basis for a decision on the long-term policy on the restrictions, the department said.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Under-Secretary of State for Trade, was of the opinion that its findings suggest that major changes are necessary to protect the night environment.

Interested parties are being consulted with the report so that their views can be taken into account by the Government.

They are being asked to comment within the next two months so that a final decision can be announced early next year.

The report, titled "Noise and Sleep Disturbance", was prepared by the Directorate of Operational Research and Analysis of the Civil Aviation Authority, 65-67 Kingsway, WC2B 6TE, £3.50.

Teacher case talks agreed

Our Correspondent

After a joint initiative, the of Mrs Helen Crook, who was dismissed by the county council for refusing to take a class of 40 under-11s, has been agreed.

By the county council, which was ordered by the High Court to reinstate her, Mrs Crook, 37, made a statement at an industrial tribunal in Nottingham yesterday, saying she would be happy to return to work.

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Crusader 80 peacetime test for TA

Our Correspondent

A total of 18,000 members of territorial Army will begin the Channel, by sea, today in the greatest test for the Second World War.

The test is being held to mark the 35th anniversary of the D-Day landings. It is the largest peacetime test for the Territorial Army (TA) since the Second World War.

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ash helmet tester failed again

Bill Hill, 71, a retired teacher, who was told to crash helmet when riding a motor cycle, was sent to prison for the first time yesterday after failing to pay fines for breaking the law.

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Boycott sought on products of rare animals

By Tony Saunders

Barrows and Selfridges are among more than a hundred companies on an "endangered species" product list being circulated by Friends of the Earth, the conservation group, in an attempt to organize a public boycott of British companies trading in products from crocodiles, tigers, or spotted cats.

Friends of the Earth argues that present legislation does not go far enough in prohibiting trade in vulnerable and endangered species.

The companies on the list are breaking no law, but the implication is strong that there is a moral obligation to refrain from dealing in any products that threaten the chances for survival of any of the one thousand vertebrate species believed to be in imminent danger of extinction.

Products from the turtle, crocodile, and cat species have been chosen because they are particularly popular throughout Britain.

Gardener grew cannabis plants in Hyde Park

By Stewart Tandler

A gardener working in Hyde Park, London, grew potted cannabis plants hidden among bushes in the park, it was alleged at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday. The 73-year-old man was charged with growing cannabis plants for sale.

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BBC2 will teach English to immigrants

By Kenneth Gosling

BBC 2 is launching next month a "cost" programme of £500,000, a series of 20 television programmes, each with two repeats, designed to help thousands of British residents whose first language is not English to make themselves more easily understood.

The programme, titled "Speak for Yourself", is the first project of its kind to be attempted on such a scale. The educational broadcasting department said other countries would be watching the results with a view to setting up similar programmes.

The programmes will start at 6.55 pm each Friday with repeats on Tuesday and Wednesday. There will be a follow-up telephone referral service operating for three hours after each programme ends.

By the time it begins on October 17 the series will have been two years in the planning; a production team has shown a thousand people in sample audiences all over Britain.

Miss Jenny Le, education officer of the BBC's continuing education department, said that apart from 200,000 people from the Asian subcontinent, there were many others, such as Latin-American catering workers, Chinese, Greeks and Turks, who tended to speak English less than the Asians, as well as people who were able to communicate only as much as required for their work.

Funding for support and back-up services has come from the EEC Social Fund (£42,250 over two years), from Unesco, and from the Cadbury and Rowntree trusts.

BBC Publications is helping with the multilingual promotional needs, and 184,000 student guides summarizing the programmes and main teaching points will be available free of charge in 13 languages at public libraries.

How soccer officials combat hooligans... and why they feel let down by the law

The clubs alone cannot be blamed for football violence

By Norman Fox, Football Correspondent

When Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, observed after last week's hooliganism at Oldham that sports organizers should put their houses in order, the keepers of football's better-known establishments may have viewed this as another platitudinous contribution along the familiar lines of "something must be done".

Much has been done, and though most clubs were slow to foresee the problems and at first reluctant to act, there is now a lobby calling for law to make a greater contribution.

Most suggestions put forward since the Oldham incidents have been peripheral, urging players themselves to avoid violent conduct and calling for the closing of bars or terraces, including closing grounds or terraces and refusing admission to all visiting supporters.

There is an impression that football officials prefer to do nothing, always blaming incidents on "social ills". In theory the Football Association orders all clubs to accept responsibility for crowd behaviour within their grounds. In fact some barely meet the minimum demands, but others go far beyond them.

Liverpool, albeit a club successful enough to keep crowds entertained, have extended their burdens beyond the Football Association's law 33a, which requires them to ensure the good conduct of crowds, players and officials at pain of almost unlimited consequences.

As well as spending £500,000 on ground safety, including building a large pen for visiting supporters, they employ an "executive liaison officer", Mr Jim Kennefick, who works with other clubs, British Rail, the supporters clubs and the police in successfully ensuring the minimum fuss when Liverpool play away.

Liverpool found that the biggest difficulty for the police was being left under-strength after being given wrong estimates of incoming crowds. In one instance, a club visiting Anfield suggested that about 2,500 supporters would travel, whereas more than 10,000 arrived. Liverpool now co-operates with the visiting club and ensure that sufficient police are available to escort them to and from the ground and keep order there.

Mr Kennefick said: "Liverpool first identified the problems in Europe. Two years ago we saw the possibility of oncoming events, I was appointed with the idea of monitoring movements of the fans here and abroad and reporting back."

His work has proved effective. He declares on Liverpool's behalf that they have "no trouble" from supporters who travel on official trains, supervised by the club and British Rail police. Other clubs say the same, but the headline capturing hooligans generally move in independent groups, at Anfield where two detention rooms see an average of only 10 detainees from average crowds of more than 40,000, a minimum of 70 police are on duty and anyone arrested appears before magistrates. This may seem to be normal procedure, but, at some grounds, it is said, trouble-makers are simply ejected, to return through the turnstiles.

Liverpool's secretary, Mr Peter Robinson, believes that most violence now occurs outside the grounds. He says that there have been instances already this season of gangs waiting in parks and side streets to waylay genuine football spectators, and it is familiar sight at London railway stations when returning supporters are attacked by gangs who appear to have no club allegiance. This season, however, has shown that violence on the terraces remains a threat to the national sport.

At several grounds police use closed-circuit television to watch for trouble and action can be taken more easily as a result of walkways between groups of spectators. Even so, such improvements are eroded by the very action of carrying out the Safety of Sports Grounds Act, 1975. That greatly reduced the capacities of stadiums, and though protecting crowds from accidents, it increased the opportunities for hooligans to attack one another.

Not surprisingly, the better-run clubs feel frustrated after reducing their ground capacities and so their income. Most agree that, after their efforts to contain a breakdown in law and order that merely manifests itself at football grounds, they should get more support from the courts.

Drinks ban upheld: Aston Villa Football Club have failed in a second attempt to get a drink licence for their ground (the Press Association reports). Last Wednesday Birmingham magistrates stopped the general sale of drink at Villa Park for two home matches. Yesterday they rejected an application for an occasional licence for the ground's private boxes.

Complimentary tickets: Mid-dlesex were to issue complimentary tickets to young supporters whose fathers are unemployed. For every home game up to 300 complimentary tickets are to be issued in children aged between 14 and 15. Their names will be submitted by local schools on a rota basis.

Visions of a new Venice on dockside wastelands

By Frances Gibb

A revitalized River Thames, with leaping salmon, human-scale architecture, and boating lakes in place of derelict docklands was envisaged at a conference held in London yesterday.

That conception coincides with a Thamesday Festival today, at which thousands of Londoners, tourists, and visitors are expected to line the banks for a procession of sailing boat displays, free river trips and fireworks shows.

Sir Peter Shepherd, the architect, told a hundred representatives from tourism, waterways and fisheries, riverside boroughs and nature conservation that London's derelict wastes were a great advantage.

"I do not see why the reconstruction of London cannot take place on disused railway yards and coal basins," he said. "There is no reason why this city cannot be as beautiful as Venice, which, like other cities such as Hamburg and Lübeck, have been built on depressing sites of marshes and flat-lands."

Attacking much of present architecture lining the river banks, he said: "Architects have very largely forgotten their life-enhancing function. A great deal of what is put up is to increase the profit of developers and to enhance the reputation and self-importance of the architects."

Architects must get back to the human scale, which would mean lower buildings, he said. "That does not necessarily mean lower-density buildings, but more comfortable, natural buildings."

The conference, convened by the Greater London Council and the Water Space Agency Commission, heard that two salmon had been seen as far upstream as Thurrock in Essex.

Mr Michael Durr, director of scientific services, Thames Water Authority, said that in the late 1930s and early 1960s the only fish seen in the Thames was the eel. In 1967 there were 34 species, and almost a hundred now.

"If you are able to maintain the quality of the river and deal with the two outstanding problems, the pollution caused by storm water and driftwood, I hope that again we will be able to see salmon leaping in the Thames."



Catching the wind: Competitors practising yesterday for the first national freestyle and slalom sailboarding championship at Thorpe Park, Egham, Surrey, this weekend.

Rate bills are to be made simpler

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Ratepayers should be able to understand better the details of their council's expenditure in future as a result of the acceptance of a code of practice on rate demands issued by the Department of the Environment.

The code has the support of the local authority associations and other bodies representing ratepayers' interests.

Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said yesterday that the code of practice was the first step towards improving information about local government expenditure.

"We are sweeping away the present archaic and inflexible rules which lead to the production of the unintelligible small print that most of us at present receive on the back of our rate bills," he said.

Local authorities are being asked to issue simple bills, and to supplement them with much more intelligible leaflets showing what the authority spends, how many people it employs, and how plans for the future figures to change in the forthcoming year.

The department is considering ways in which councils might publish details of their performance.

In brief 27 nurses reject pay increase

Nursing staff at a convalescent home at Silloth, Cumbria, have refused a wage rise in an attempt to save the home from closure.

The 27 nurses, mainly part-time workers, decided to refuse the 14 per cent salary increase awarded by the Clegg Commission because rising costs and a fall in the number of patients threatened the existence of the home.

Bejtman appeal on pier refused

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has rejected a plea by Sir John Bejtman for government aid for Southend pier, which is threatened with closure.

Affray charge remand

Ronald Faby, aged 20, a steel fixer of Bobbersmill Road, Nottingham, was remanded in custody by Teesside magistrates yesterday charged with making an affray. The charge arose from an incident outside Middlesbrough football ground last Saturday.

Anglo-Saxon find

Six Anglo-Saxon silver brooches unearthed by Mr William King, aged 62, of East Dereham, Norfolk, while digging a grave at Fenney, King's Lynn, were declared treasure yesterday and will earn a substantial reward.

Heart man's progress

Mr Gordon Macdonald, aged 40, from Nairn, Inverness-shire, Britain's latest heart transplant patient, was making satisfactory progress at Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, an official reported yesterday.

Treasures for sale

Family treasures from Nunwell House, in the Isle of Wight, where Charles I spent his last night of freedom, are expected to raise £150,000 at auction next Wednesday.

Scientist accused of cruelty wants animals to choose

From Our Veterinary Correspondent

Some of the heat might be removed from the animal welfare debate if man let animals choose their environment, Dr Barry Cross, director of the Institute of Animal Physiology at Babraham, Cambridge, said yesterday.

Dr Cross, who was addressing the British Veterinary Association conference at York University, has been at the centre of protests by anti-vivisectionists and animal welfare groups over the work of the institute.

He said, in an address entitled "Do Animals Mind?" that the institute had developed procedures enabling animals to choose the amount of light or heat they receive during the day by operating switches.

Farm animals preferred darkness for only about a quarter of each day, but if the operation of the switches was made a little more difficult, they switched on the light for only one hour a day.

That, indicated, Dr Cross believed, that it was not cruel to keep animals in the dark for long periods. However, animals, Dr J. R. Walton, of Liverpool University, strongly attacked suggestions that veterinarians were to blame for the increase of anti-biotic-resistant bacteria. Veterinarians had a duty to use the best methods available to treat disease. Resistant strains of bacteria could arise in man directly from the use of antibiotics in human medicine, such as had occurred with tetracycline.

Effigy burnt: Demonstrators outside the university hall burnt an effigy of Dr Cross as he delivered his address (Our York Correspondent writes). Police cordoned off the building as about twenty protesters chanted slogans alleging that the methods used at the Babraham institute caused suffering.

Back to school? College? Evening Classes? Here's an offer to make studying even easier!

The Home Office is a complete, self-contained unit packed with features. Drop-flap work surface, fitted drawers, and lots of storage space. Rich teak-style finish with light oak interior. 43 1/2" high, 16 1/2" deep, 53" wide (open). Your free "FF" chair has tone-on-tone bronze upholstery and a solid hardwood frame. BUT HURRY! This offer is for a limited period only!

Cuties, the Home Office becomes a real cabinet only 300" model!

Free chair

(Our current price £14.95) when you buy this Home Office

Britain's lowest price only

£59.95

FREE

THE PRICE BUSTERS

Free chair

This voucher entitles you to one free chair (value £14.95) when you buy an Executive Home Office. (Not valid for cash or credit.)

Valid until 31st March 1981. One voucher per customer.

Old Days Coming!

all things need winter. TIGERMOTH for hand-knit, Shetland, striped play suits, Puffin, Bateau T-shirts, dangerous scarves, coats, jeans, socks and toys. everything for children.

10p stamp for Vogue or visit shops. TIGERMOTH (73) Portobello Rd, W11 and at Richmond Rd, Kenilworth, Middlesex.

Iron Age discovery

Remains of an Iron Age settlement, two Roman temples and the early Christian structures have been uncovered at a site at Witham, Essex.

LIBERAL ASSEMBLY/BLACKPOOL

Mr David Steel appeals to the disenchanted to join crusade for new politics

Mr David Steel, leader of the party, in his key speech to the assembly, appealed to disenchanted members of all other parties to join the Liberals. "To members of all other parties I say this: 'Break free from the past. It is time to think of the future. We need your help.'"

He wanted the Liberal Party to be more ambitious, but members should not be so arrogant and purist towards others who shared their vision of what could and should be, that they behaved like an exclusive club rather than give a lead to a broad radical movement.

"We must recognize that most of those who would join with us will have supported other parties in the past. Like many people in this hall, they will have trodden the hard path of disillusionment. It is up to us to give them hope, and welcome them to go with us."

"If we can grasp the political initiative I believe the next general election could see the end of the old politics, the beginning of the new. I foresee a Liberal vote so massive and the number of Liberal MPs so great that we shall hold the balance in the new Parliament. No government will be formed without us. I know that many unhappy MPs in the other parties will ally themselves with us once the moment comes."

Mr Steel added: "Liberals and their principles, allies would come together to form what the country has needed for so long. A liberal government of partnership and reconciliation, one which judges greatness not in the immediate pursuit of selfish and superficial wealth, but in terms of the excellence of our education, the quality of our compassion, the health of our country, the harmony of our industrial life, and above all, the quality of our society, as the next election, we must give our people the chance they deserve, the chance to elect a great government of national reform."

Earlier, the Liberal leader had told the assembly that the central issue in politics in the next 12 months must be how to rescue the economy. The Conservatives saw the crisis as caused by too much state intervention and sought to bring a free market model of capitalism. The Labour Party saw it as a failure of the mixed economy and sought to bring a new form of socialism behind high tariff walls. The Liberals said it differently.

Mr Steel asked: "Why, when the world catches a cold, do we get pneumonia? Our crisis is peculiar in Britain. It is caused by failure of our political system and the inadequacies of our political and industrial leadership. That is why we assert, as we did in last year's election manifesto, that economic and industrial recovery can only follow from a radical programme of political and industrial reform."

"The Conservatives' management of the economy in the last year has been ill informed, inept, and their entire economic policy depends on control of the money supply. Yet in two months they have used up their own target of a year's growth in money supply and so their policy lies in ruins."

"They have been selling off our public assets and closing down the private ones. A few years ago Ted Heath described asset-stripping as the unacceptable face of capitalism. Now it is the only way to find the nation's assets. They are round the nation's assets stripping now, round the Cabinet table in No 10. How many Conservatives today face up to these grim economic realities? Must we wait for the day when a Tory Prime Minister sits in a corner playing the piano while his ministers, at least Sir Alec, were threatened to burn down the house."

The Labour alternative of more public ownership and increased state control was only the reversion of an old solution that had failed before. "In the long run, the only way to reverse Britain's economic and industrial decline without far-reaching political change, that is, without a new democratic Parliament and a more open political system are central planks in the Liberal platform."

"The Prime Minister's response to the unemployment in South Wales, let them move house, deserves to go down in history alongside 'let them eat cake' as one of the most callous failures of a government to understand the problems of ordinary people. Time and again, when I look at Mrs Thatcher's personal direction of the policies of this Government, she reminds me of a First World War general. She has the determination to pursue her objectives at whatever human cost and to go on pursuing them as the casualties mount and in defiance of all the evidence that the strategy has collapsed. It is her judgement."

Because Mrs Thatcher had the good fortune and undoubted ability to transform herself from a prosperous grocer's daughter in Grantham to an even more prosperous barrister in Chelsea, does not mean that most of the nation has the same way. How can she say to the unemployed school-leavers on the street corners in Liverpool: 'You have ruined the economy. You have ruined the market? How can she grasp the very different problems of the one-parent families, the racially persecuted, the over-crowded prisons? She cannot understand them because they fall outside her own narrow experience of life."

Reports by Sara Gordon, Robert Morgan and Bonner Wellman of our Parliamentary Staff

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"Fourth, start a Buy British campaign and give the lead by legislating this session for a standard of origin of all imported goods. Fifth, create without delay the machinery for a standard policy on prices and income increases, including a rapid expansion of profit-sharing schemes throughout industry. Sixth, consider the possibility of local authority area new plans to recycle and reuse waste materials such as metal, paper and glass."

Mr Steel said that all of that was short term and would require some government expenditure, but it would be much less wasteful than the £2,000 million which the present

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WEST EUROPE

Strikes stop work at Fiat plants in Turin

Turin, Sept. 12—Striking workers brought production at Fiat's car plants to a virtual standstill today in protest over the company's decision to axe 14,000 jobs.

The Metalworkers' Union, which called the four-hour stoppage last night, said this morning that the strikes at the three main Fiat plants in Turin would be extended throughout the day.

Talks between management and unions over the company's decision to lay off 24,000 workers over the next 18 months because of a slump in car sales broke down two days ago.

The unions said yesterday that Fiat—Italy's biggest private sector company—had informed them that its redundancy letters would be sent to 14,000 workers after a statutory 25-day period.

About 8,000 workers marched to the headquarters of the Piedmont regional government council in Turin, waving banners and shouting slogans. Signor Enzo Eusebi, the council chairman, who received a delegation, expressed solidarity with the workers and called upon Fiat to reopen talks and withdraw the redundancy notices.

Late last night the unions said they had proposed a four-hour general strike throughout the Piedmont region. The strike, if approved by an assembly of union delegates and officials, would take place on September 25.

Meanwhile Signor Franco Foschi, the Labour Minister, said he would be in Turin tomorrow to give representatives more time to prepare their case. A ministry spokesman said the two sides would meet Signor Foschi separately later tonight.

The Fiat layoffs came a week before the Government is due to make a decision on whether to agree to an Alfa Romeo deal with the Japanese. Fiat is a subsidiary of the Japanese car giant, and the deal would build cars with Italian engines and Japanese bodywork.

Fiat has often criticized the deal, first proposed last March, because it gives Japan a further foothold in the European car market at a time of recession in car sales.—Reuter.

Troubled autumn ahead: The promised season of autumn discontent can be said to have begun with the breakdown of the talks between Fiat and the trade unions and the start of the Government's attempt to mediate (Peter Nichols writes from Rome).

The union threat to renew stoppages is a psychological blow as well as a financial one, for Fiat factories are associated in the public mind with economic success.

The clash with the car unions has also taken on the character of a free and open society in which there are no extremes of wealth or poverty, nor deep racial or ethnic hatreds, nor religious or creed. Constructive political leadership would work to generate popular consent, to bring about a new social order, to transform society. The Conservative Party, which has been in power since 1979, has been accused of being a free and open society in which there are no extremes of wealth or poverty, nor deep racial or ethnic hatreds, nor religious or creed. Constructive political leadership would work to generate popular consent, to bring about a new social order, to transform society.

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Herr Willy Brandt calls pastoral letter 'alarming'

Bishops accused of urging Catholics to support Herr Strauss

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Sept. 12

West Germany's Roman Catholic bishops were accused today of attempting to influence the faithful to vote for Herr Franz Josef Strauss in a pastoral letter to be read in all pulpits two weeks before election day.

In their letter, the bishops asked the faithful to think before voting about "what God's commandments require from politics". The "dangerously high state debts", the "increasing role of the state in people's lives and the consequent spread of bureaucracy" must now be corrected, it said.

These issues are among the main election arguments of Herr Strauss, the Chancellor-elect, of the opposition Christian Democratic Union and Christian Social Union.

The bishops also alleged that abortion legislation, liberalized by the present Government some years ago, no longer completely protects "a child's right to life. The divorce laws, also liberalized by the coalition, 'destroy marriage', they said.

The strongest criticism came from the bishops' own flock. Dr Norbert Greinacher, Professor of Catholic Theology at Tübingen University, who called the letter a "clear statement on behalf of Herr Strauss", said the bishops were misusing their office.

Reports that the Saudi Government would agree to finance the development and production of the Mirage 4000, a twin-engine intercepter and long range low altitude penetration aircraft designed by the Dassault-Breguet firm, is described in well informed quarters as "day dreaming" by the Dassault and French aeronautical lobby.

Dassault has been trying for two years to find the necessary finance for the development and production of the aircraft. But the French Government has made it clear that its adoption by the French Air Force was not planned for the time being. It has ordered the single-engine Mirage 2000 version of the aircraft.

Reports that the contract with Saudi Arabia had been signed or even finalised earlier this month are without foundation. Negotiations are still in progress, but they are expected to end soon. The contract would involve the supply of missile launching destroyers and anti-submarine patrol vessels, coastal defence and electronic equipment.

The ships would be constructed by two private shipyards working on contract for the state shipyards. If both the Saudi Arabian and the French governments are concluded, they will provide a substantial boost to the French shipbuilding industry.

As for the Mirage 4000, there is no sign that the Saudi Government is ready to go ahead and finance its development and production until the French Government has itself decided to purchase it. At present, neither it nor Dassault are in a position to do so.

There was a problem, but it must be solved scientifically. M. Maignan recommended three types of action: The complete banning of the injection of artificial hormones; European regulations on the use of natural hormones and giving the scientists a chance to air their views on the effect of the use of oestrogen on health.

According to the Federal Union of Consumers (UFC), the traffic in calves doctored with hormones is not the exception, as the authorities claim, but a general practice. The legal steps taken against it, and the repeated condemnations of battery raising, have not been effective. In representing 14,000 calves per cent of French calves are not battery raised.

Mr Michel Delabasse, the State Secretary for the Food processing industry, who is also a cattle breeder, said in a radio interview that "one could not make such sweeping changes, and attack a corporation that of breeders, which is already in difficulties, and the majority of whose members respect the law."

West German Election 1980

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Mr Michel Delabasse, the State Secretary for the Food processing industry, who is also a cattle breeder, said in a radio interview that "one could not make such sweeping changes, and attack a corporation that of breeders, which is already in difficulties, and the majority of whose members respect the law."

Warning of politics in the home

Cardinal Antonio Riboldi warns of politics in the home

From Our Correspondent, Lisbon, Sept. 12

Cardinal Antonio Riboldi, Archbishop of Lisbon, has warned of "politics in the home" in his latest pastoral letter to Catholics here. He comes at a time when the bishops in Rome are studying the functions of the papal family in the home.

Emphasising modern cultures in the way of happiness, the cardinal says the home should be a place of peace and harmony, a place where the family can find its own way of life. He says that the home should be a place where the family can find its own way of life.

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Gladstone beats Marx 5-1

From Ian Bradley

The sun came out at Blackpool yesterday for virtually the first time since delegates arrived at the start of the week for the Liberal Assembly. With it, the Liberals seemed to lighten their step and raise their spirits after the solemnity of the opening day.

There was an air of light-hearted enthusiasm both in and out of the hall. Mr Clement Freud was signing copies of his new picture book for children, *Rhio Orpheus* Choir was limbering up for an evening of wine and song organised by the Liberals. Portraits of Mr Gladstone were in constant demand at the do-it-yourself badge-making stall and notepaper with the grand old man on the cover had sold out by luncheon. Even Mr Grimond, the Gladstone of twentieth-century liberalism, was to be seen striding the corridors of the Opera House for the first time this week.

It was all a build-up to the afternoon session when the Liberal values. There is nothing that Liberals like more than discussing philosophy, and observers might suspect that it was from having to think of anything as sordid or mundane as politics. Yesterday, the party ideologues were in fine form: they debated the relative merits of classical liberalism and community politics.

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Mr Grimond, deep in thought as Liberal values are debated.

had to be content with fewer medals. Living Gladstone scored two, John Smart Mills only one, putting him on a par with the distinctly Liberal and historic Karl Marx and Thomas Carlyle.

The Liberals were also able yesterday to indulge another of their favourite pastimes, particularly important questions as "did you miss the civic reception?" and "would you be happy to come to the Blackpool Liberal Association assembly?"

The final question asked delegates to suggest further names for future Liberal roll and the cheapest and most suitable place

between the case of Miss Wilson and that of Dr Sheila Cassidy because Miss Wilson was only half English, and was born and bred in Liverpool, and Miss Cassidy was only half-English.

Mr Trevor Jones, chairman of the Association of Liberal Councils, also attacked the party proposal, saying the party had been making out that all the Liberals had been worrying about was a centre

'Vanishing values' of democrats

Mr Michael Meadowcroft

chairman of the assembly, said during a debate on Liberal values for a new decade that the policies of the Labour and Conservative parties were designed to develop central power and large

OVERSEAS

Soviet block countries join in sending more aid to Poland

From Dessau, Trier, and
Versailles, Sept. 12

Mr Stanislaw Kania, the new Polish leader, is expected to arrive in Warsaw soon with a message from the Soviet Union that the Soviet Union has agreed to send the immediate goods of the Polish strikes by sending more food, consumer goods, and industrial raw materials. East Germany has also agreed to supply of consumer goods to Poland and other countries of the Soviet block are expected to follow.

The Polish delegation headed by Mr Mieczyslaw Jagielski, the deputy Prime Minister, has ended a two-day visit to Moscow, during which the government for additional diversification of Soviet goods was tried.

Mr Jagielski seems to have assured the Soviet leaders that the agreement which the Polish Government signed with a strikers was a necessary development.

However, may not be entirely true, but a high Foreign Ministry official here said that a Soviet leadership, apart from a visiting apprehension lest a situation got out of hand, had shown full understanding of the Polish Government's position that it considered the crisis to be an internal Polish affair.

There never was any actual revolt, the official said. On the contrary, throughout the crisis,

Soviet leaders expressed confidence that the Polish authorities would be able to handle the situation and bring the conflict to a successful end.

Had the situation deteriorated, Poles would have found themselves in a catastrophic situation, he went on. But even then, they would not have been in a Soviet intervention. The implication is that the Polish authorities would have had to use force themselves.

In fact, the successful settlement which ended the conflict seems here as having wider implications. It is felt that it sets an example of how the most difficult and most dangerous crises can be overcome by patient negotiations rather than by conflict or the use of force.

This, applied on the international scale, the Poles say, would ease the dialogue between East and West, which is of particular importance now that the European security conference is soon to begin in Madrid. Poland has much to say on this, especially on military détente.

Polish diplomats feel that as a result of the settlements reached with the workers, Poland's internal and foreign policies have gained credibility.

The Poles are hoping that their experience will be beneficial to all the participants in Madrid. They make the point that there is no interference from outside people, can resolve peacefully even the most difficult and dangerous of problems.

Concern in Warsaw over continuing wave of strikes

Our Correspondent
Warsaw, Sept. 12

The Polish strikes are not over. Every day reports of new strikes come in from plants over the country where the workers are either making new demands or protesting because demands have not been carried out.

Kielce, for instance, ball-bearing plants went on strike the second time after workers were informed that all joining the new independent unions would not receive a holiday allowance, and a demanded wage increase compensation.

This shows that despite the Government's emphatic and repeated assurances that agreements will be fully implemented, many local officials are placing all kinds of obstacles in the way of the workers. Although scattered, the strikes are a serious worry to the leaders in Warsaw.

Mr Stanislaw Kania, the new leader, recently told party members that all the agreements will be carried out. But he also let it be known that the party would do its utmost to prevent "anti-socialist elements" from infiltrating the new unions.

Dansk adviser talks in London

How the unthinkable became thinkable

Richard Davy

Mr Andrzej Wlodek, a Polish economist and secretary of the Club of Catholic Intellectuals in Warsaw, is one of a group of ten who have just arrived in London during the recent visit which led to the Government accepting independent trade unions. The group helped the strikers with economic, social and political advice and also had a discussion with government experts.

London this week for Mr Wlodek, however, is not a place of triumph. He told me that even members of his group had a difficult time at first to get the Government to accept the formation of independent unions, but the negotiations were a sort of a relief for everyone concerned, especially the unthinkable became thinkable.

He is now convinced that the Government can in fact run within the system, and a major function if there is a popular consensus for it, which will initially be self-denial. But understanding will be required by the party and among people.

The most important factor in achieving political equilibrium and the start of economic reform will be the role of the party apparatus. Mr Wlodek demands a "new society," he says. "Be of the success of the party there are going to be demands from peasants, workers and youth organisations."

He suggests that the party now stop merely reacting to the initiative in taking to these demands, but it lacks confidence and credibility. It will have to go a mental change and offering something new, as seen evidence in the faces of some younger functionaries that this is impossible.

He thinks the party should play a role in the independent unions instead of resisting them. Some party officials were already supporting them. The new unions do not object to party members joining them, only to leading party officials taking leading roles.

He admits that if party members are to work within the independent unions without trying to take them over, there will have to be more democracy in the party. But he points out that it is impossible in Poland now to govern without the support of the party, and this support cannot be won without accepting the democratic unions which society now insists on. At the same time there will be an obligation on the leaders of the party to avoid involving themselves in politics by making ideological statements or, for instance, discussing foreign policy.

A particularly important task for the Government now, says Mr Wlodek, is to develop a new policy towards religion and the Church. He points out that about 80-90 per cent of industrial workers are believers, and that roughly two-thirds of party members among industrial workers are believers. The split loyalties of these members pose a serious dilemma for the party.

It is in the interests of the Polish state, he says, "to have an Italian-style solution by admitting philosophical pluralism within the party." If this is impossible within the Soviet block, the gravity of the crisis demands that tensions between party and Church be abolished by ending atheistic propaganda, which is absurd.

The believers for their part must also behave with moderation and moderation, he says, because there is a danger of reviving confessional politics. "We must be for a more pluralistic, democratic society, not for Church privileges, in order to avoid giving an explicitly religious character to political and social life."

Atollah's conditions for ease of hostages

ran, Sept. 12

Mr Ayatollah Khomeini said the United States would be asked if America returned property of the Shah, cancelled Iranian assets and needed political and military intervention in Iran, the radio reported.

He did not demand any money from Washington for the release of the hostages, but a message to Muslims of the pilgrimage to the Ayatollah said the reaction of our nation to the message that the US is on our country.

He recalled that he had made the decision on the but observers said the

parliament was unlikely to set different terms.

The students holding the hostages said the terms laid down by Ayatollah Khomeini would be the minimum demand of the Mojib. Asked whether, if the Mojib decided on the same conditions and the United States accepted them, the students would release the captives, a spokesman for them said: "Yes, of course."

Reuter.

Correction
The Afghan Government's payment to volunteers of about 7,000 afghanis a month to exploit tribal unity is equivalent to 175,000 afghanis, as stated in a report on September 2.



Turkey's new leaders include (from left) General Kenan Evren, who led the coup, General Sedat Celal and General Tahsin Sahinkaya.

Coup leader pledges Turkey's continued loyalty to Nato

From Frederick Bonnair

In a personally delivered message early today General Kenan Evren, the Chief of the Turkish General Staff, pledged Turkey's continued loyalty to Nato, according to well-informed sources here.

The message and its timing were well received by the allies who had become increasingly worried about the chaotic political situation in this exposed but vital area on Nato's southern flank.

The long Turkish border with the Soviet Union is only one factor, Turkish possession of the

Dardanelles, the only exit from the Black Sea for Russian shipping, has long been a permanent irritation of the Soviet Union.

In Greece, Mr Andreas Papandreu, the opposition leader, has declared his intention of taking his country out of Nato if he wins the next elections, and beyond Turkey, the revolutionary Iran and the culdron of the Middle East.

The massive economic and military aid from the allies in recent months, provided mainly by West Germany and the United States is a sign of the importance the allies attach to this Nato partner.

Assurances were also given by General Evren that the allied military exercises planned to take place in Turkey shortly, which include the deployment of the Allied Command Europe Mobile Force (Land), of which a British battalion is a part, will continue to take place as arranged.

EEC waits: There will be no automatic freezing of relations between the European Community and Turkey following the military takeover in Ankara, EEC Commission officials made clear in Brussels (Peter Norman writes).

But the coup will inevitably

single discussion on Turkey's wish to become a full member of the EEC, no doubt to the relief of the existing member states.

Not unexpected: The military takeover in Turkey was not altogether unexpected by the British Government, given the paralysis of the Turkish Parliament and the increasing violence of recent months (David Spanier, Our Diplomatic Correspondent, writes).

The view in Whitehall is that there is no reason to fear that Turkey's commitment to the West and the Atlantic Alliance

will be weakened, although it is hoped that Turkey's difficulties will be sufficiently overcome to allow a return to a parliamentary democracy.

US sympathy: While pointing out that it was always concerned when any democratically elected government was ousted by the military, the United States Administration reacted with considerable sympathy towards the coup (David Cross writes from Washington).

A State Department spokesman pointed out that the country had been beset by growing terrorism and severe economic difficulties for months.

General who warned politicians on violence

Ankara, Sept. 12—General Kenan Evren, the Armed Forces Chief of Staff and leader of the Turkish coup, is a Korean War veteran who repeatedly warned politicians of the dangers of unchecked political violence and separatism.

General Evren, aged 62, is regarded as a modest man, respected by his subordinates for his willingness to listen. Many observers believe he led the coup-making "National Security Council" to avert a Putsch by factions of the army.

The general became commander of the First Army in 1951, then Army Chief of Staff and Deputy Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces. He led a military mission to the Soviet Union in 1975, after the United States arms embargo over the invasion of Cyprus.

After the army commander quit in 1977 General Evren was appointed to the post, the normal stepping-stone to command of the armed forces.

In May this year he called for an end to the deadlock in Parliament over the successor to President Koruturk.

Two weeks ago General Evren issued another statement on the failure to elect a president and called on parliament to find a solution to the political turmoil and to lift martial law.

Neither Mr Demirel's government nor parliament acted, and early today the military moved its move.—Agence France Presse.



PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA.

The United States is undergoing a profound crisis of confidence—a crisis from which the November election promises small relief.

The mood of America is a matter of vital importance to the rest of the world. That is why The Observer has despatched six of its top writers to assess the state of the nation.

This thought provoking series starts on the 14th of September and runs for six weeks in the Review Section.

Clive James in Washington. Washington is the political capital of the western world. But it's also a city with a rich life outside Congress and The White House; mingling high society and low gossip, thriving culture and mean streets.

Clive James, The Observer's award winning columnist, explores the town Middle America loves to hate.

Katharine Whitehorn. Are the Daughters of the Revolution still in revolt? When the Pilgrim Fathers set foot in America the first thing their mothers, wives and daughters did was to establish a sense of community.

Women's movements have flourished there ever since; but how are they adapting to more militant times? Katharine Whitehorn looks at organised womanhood in America, ancient and modern.

Martin Amis. Born Again U.S.A. America is still one of the most outwardly Christian countries in the world. Millions of Americans claim, like Jimmy Carter, to be born again.

Martin Amis considers the extraordinary influence of Christianity in a country whose middle class traditions are built on the rock of public piety.

Anthony Holden on the campaign trail. This is the first American election for The Observer's highly acclaimed Washington correspondent. He reports on his impressions of the razzamataz, the huge costs involved, the propaganda war and the highly charged campaign atmosphere.

Hugh McIlvanney. Getting his kicks on Route 66. The Americans must be the largest nomadic tribe on earth. Their obsession with travelling has inspired writers, film-makers and every songwriter since the first blues singer.

Twenty-four hours from Tulsa, with Georgia on his mind, Hugh McIlvanney will be asking the way to San Jose.

Conor Cruise O'Brien. The State of the Nation. The United States is going through its worst recession since the Thirties. Foreign policy is in shreds. Military might is in doubt as seldom before. America is drifting into despair. But how do the intellectuals see it?

U.S. Universities have always played a larger political role than their British counterparts:—now Conor Cruise O'Brien visits the campuses of America and examines the thoughts and aspirations of the students and their mentors.

Who do the Americans think they are? Find out in The Observer's forthcoming series, starting on the 14th of September.

OVERSEAS

Pastor tells South Korea court he was tortured

Seoul, Sept. 12.—A Presbyterian pastor said at a military trial of 24 leading South Korean dissidents today that his captors tortured him into making a confession.

Mr Lee Rae Dong, accused of joining a communist-inspired plot led by Mr Kim Dae Jung, a former presidential candidate, told the court that he was being prosecuted on the basis of a false statement extracted after he was beaten by his interrogators, foreign observers at the trial said.

"As a pastor, I am ashamed to have made a false statement in the course of interrogation," they quoted him as saying. "But I was so badly beaten for days and said 'yes' where I should have said 'no', he added.

The defendants face prison terms ranging from three to 20 years while Mr Kim Dae Jung, South Korea's best-known opposition leader, could be hanged if found guilty of plotting to overthrow the Government.

Mr Kim, aged 54, who lost the 1971 presidential election, was to be the last speaker at the 17-day trial, attended each day by official observers from the United States and Japan. South Korea's main allies who are concerned that the trial will worsen their already strained relations with the Seoul Government.

The defendants are victims of widespread purges conducted by the military-dominated Government, which has detained thousands of people.

The prosecution yesterday called for the death penalty for Mr Kim but defence lawyers said the Government had extracted a forced confession from him.

He and the others face a variety of charges concerning his alleged involvement in fomenting a student uprising to overthrow the Government.

Mr Kim has denied the charges. In a defence statement read to the court yesterday his lawyers insisted that he was a firm believer in democratic principles and that he opposed student demonstrations on the grounds that they provided an excuse to continue martial law.

Mr Kim's fellow-accused include Christian leaders, university professors and former members of Parliament.

The Government-controlled press today gave prominent coverage to the prosecution's arguments, carrying the complete text of all the charges against Mr Kim. Defence arguments were also published but only after military censors had deleted the most contentious points.—Reuter.

Objections raised in Tashkent to draft text that attacked Western policy and failed to mention Afghanistan intervention Soviet Muslim conference ends in confusion after complaints by foreign delegates

From Michael Binyon, Tashkent, Sept. 12

A four-day conference of Soviet Muslims in Tashkent ended in confusion today without formally adopting any resolution after complaints by foreign participants that the Soviet draft was inadequate.

Leaders of the four religious boards responsible for Islam in the Soviet Union drew up a text devoted mainly to attacking the United States and the West. It condemned imperialism, Nato and American plans for a limited nuclear conflict, and accused the United States of sowing disintegration among Muslims.

It also called for the liberation of Jerusalem and the establishment of a Palestinian state. There was no mention of Afghanistan.

At the final session, a Kuwaiti delegate objected that no foreign guests had been consulted, and the draft represented only the Soviet viewpoint.

The influential political and religious leader of the Al-Ansar sect in Sudan, Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi, in a clear reference to Afghanistan, proposed an amendment calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Muslim countries, non-interference in their internal affairs, and the dismantling of military bases abroad.

His amendment, which the embarrassed organizers first tried to prevent him from moving, also touched on questions sensitive in the Soviet Union, calling for equality and dignity of Muslim minorities in all countries, the

freedom of Arabic and the funding by the Muslim world of an international Muslim centre and mosque in Tashkent, the main city of Soviet Central Asia.

The meeting, clearly intended as the Soviet reply to the Islamabad Muslim summit in February, which condemned Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, officially marked the beginning of the fifteenth century since the Hujra, Muhammad's flight from Mecca to Medina. But less than half the 70 countries invited attended, and absences included some of the most important Muslim countries: Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Malaysia and Egypt.

The organizers listed 33 foreign delegates, many from countries with very small Muslim communities, such as Japan, Austria and Finland. Pakistan was represented by a single journalist, France by the editor of a Franco-Soviet propaganda journal.

In June, the Mecca-based World Islamic League called for a boycott of the Tashkent conference, in solidarity with Muslim insurgents fighting Soviet troops in Afghanistan, and many countries withdrew their acceptance.

For the Soviet organizers there were two clear aims: to refute charges that Soviet Muslims are oppressed, and to show that the Soviet Union is a better friend to Islam than the United States.

In his opening address, Mufti Ziauddin Khan, Babakhan, chairman of the Muslim Board for Central Asia and Kazakhstan and de facto leader of all Soviet Muslims, accused the bourgeois press of launching a "hysterical, anti-Soviet campaign" over Iran and Afghanistan.

The two newly-appointed heads of the Muslim Board for Azerbaijan and for European Russia, both of whom are in their early thirties, took up the theme.

The Afghan delegates themselves said nothing about this and spoke only of Islamic themes. Very little was said about Iran. Although the Russians strongly backed Ayatollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution at first, relations between the two countries are now very strained.

At a Muslim conference in Dushanbe last year, there was an embarrassing public criticism from Iran of Soviet policy in Afghanistan. This year, the organizers insisted that all speakers stick to written texts which had to be shown in advance and several speakers were instructed to tone down their remarks on Afghanistan.

One senior foreign delegate said he had the feeling that he was taking part in "some kind of a show". But he said the psychological support for Soviet Muslims of his visit had made it worthwhile. Many countries are now opening their Muslim files," he said. "The question is whether anything beneficial to the Muslim community in the Soviet Union can be built on this."

Between the conference sessions there were visits to schools and mosques. Tashkent, a city of over two million, has only a handful of mosques, and in all countries there are only 200 mosques for a population of some 30 million Muslims.

A new copy of the Koran has just been published in Tashkent, but copies are hard to obtain, and one visitor said he intended to buy any Koran that he presented with here.

However, in a book throughout the city at literature condemning beliefs and customs is available and from the school education with Islam.

Mr Zhao promises further political and economic reforms in China

Peking, Sept. 12.—Mr Zhao Ziyang, the new Chinese Prime Minister, has set the tone for his administration in a hard-hitting speech emphasizing continuity in foreign policy and further political and economic reforms at home.

Having put an end to a decade of turmoil, we Chinese people are resolved to turn China into a modernized, highly democratic and civilized socialist state," Mr Zhao said at a banquet for Mr Robert Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister, last night.

Mr Zhao's appointment as Prime Minister in succession to Mr Hua Guofeng, the Communist party chairman, was approved on the final day of the 1980 session of the National People's Congress (parliament) on Wednesday.

Reiterating China's long-term

attitude towards the Soviet Union and Vietnam, he said their "invasion" of Afghanistan and Kampuchea were "important component parts of the hegemonists' global strategy for world domination."

On domestic affairs, Mr Zhao said the National People's Congress should "set a clear orientation for China's political and economic reforms." He added: "We shall promote socialist democracy, strengthen the socialist legal system, improve the leadership of our government at all levels, and enhance stability, unity and liveliness in the country as a whole."

Mr Zhao, who pioneered a number of economic reforms in Sichuan province before joining the central government last April, said China should "rigorously expand the deci-

sion-making power of enterprises and the power of their workers and staff to participate in management."

At a meeting yesterday with a delegation from the Japan-China Association on Economy and Trade, Mr Zhao also outlined political reforms.

Mr Muldoon, the first foreign leader to meet Mr Zhao since he became Prime Minister, said after four hours of talks that Mr Zhao was a pragmatic man who knew exactly what he wanted to say and said it without ideological embellishments.

Reuter. Vietnam talks call: Vietnam today asked China for the third time since last June to resume negotiations begun after the two nations' conflict in early 1973 and suspended last December (Agence France-Presse reports from Hanoi).

20-ton haul of marijuana by US agents

From Our Correspondent, Los Angeles, Sept. 12

San Francisco agents seized 20 tons of marijuana, worth more than \$40m (about £16m) and two vessels, including a yacht used by President Franklin Roosevelt.

Sixteen people were arrested, in what was called the largest single marijuana confiscation in the western United States.

The yacht Potomac had on it banners for a crippled children's society, which, United States Attorney William Hunter said, was a front for the smugglers.

Kenyan denial on bandits

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi, Sept. 12

MPs from Kenya's North-Eastern Province have issued a statement denying that people there support bandits who have entered the country from Somalia and Ethiopia.

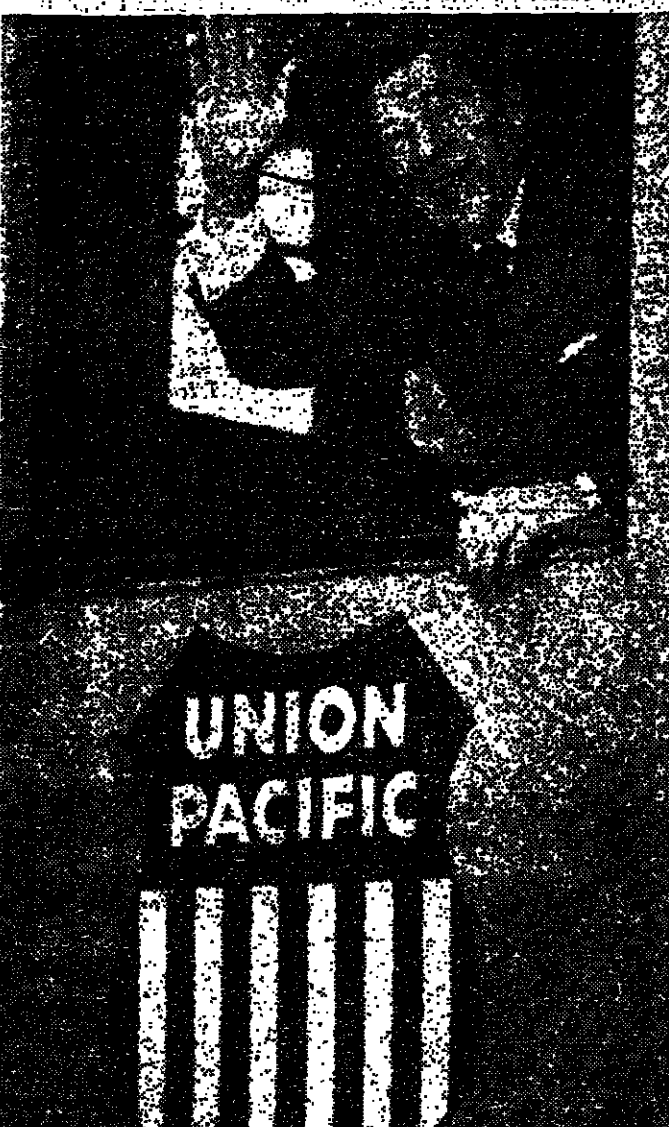
Nine MPs, led by Sheikh Aden, the Assistant Minister for Industry, recently met President Moi to express concern about allegations in the press that ethnic Somalis in Kenya support Somalia's claims to Kenyan territory.

Relations between Kenya and Somalia have been tense since the 1960s, when Somalia sup-

ported a long guerrilla war in northern Kenya.

The MPs told a press conference that crimes being committed in the area are the work of fewer than 100 bandits.

They say the bandits support the Somali Salvation Front (which is supported by the Ethiopian Government and operates against the Somali regime), and the Western Somali Liberation Front (supported by Ethiopia in the Ogaden). They said all Kenyans, including ethnic Somalis, suffer at the hands of the bandits and Kenyan Somalis do all they can to oppose them.



Mr Ronald Reagan at the Republican campaign trail, in a locomotive at Erie, Pennsylvania.

Canadian deadlock debated in private

By John Best, Ottawa, Sept. 12

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, and Canada's provincial premiers met behind closed doors today to try to salvage some kind of agreed package from this week's tough negotiations on the constitution.

After four days of full coverage on television and radio, the politicians, adjourned to Mr Trudeau's private residence to sketch together a formula for bringing the constitution from Westminster to Canada.

The Prime Minister had his work cut out for him in seeking to engineer consensus after the long days of public bickering. However, there still seems to be some hope that in their private discussions the ministers will be able to forge an agreement on patriating the British North American Act of 1867—Canada's constitution, together with an amending formula.

The constitution remains domiciled in London because the Federal Government and the provinces despite 53 years of trying—have never been able to agree on procedures to bring it to Canada and amending once it has arrived.

Amendment is the crucial question, since it could affect the future federal-provincial power balance and the highly decentralized Canadian system.

Among the formulas on the table today was one where by an amendment would carry if the Federal Government plus two-thirds of the provinces, representing at least 50 per cent of Canada's population, supported it. However, the pro-

posal also includes a defined "opting out" to protect provinces affected by the amendment. Beyond the complex, non-amendment question of a charter of rights, Mr Trudeau wants in a constitution, also, a balance.

When the issue was publicly two days ago, three provinces gave support to the Prime Minister. The rest were arguing that human rights should remain within the province of provincial laws.

There is an outside that Mr Trudeau can get an entrenching bill passed. But he does not want to see the bill become a group will broadening the concept of human rights to linguistic freedoms and economic freedoms, Trudeau proposes.

Furthermore several provinces are reluctant to enter a kind of accord re patriation unless they satisfaction on questions to their own interests.

Mr Brian Peck Newfoundlander has said he is a party that does not want to see its province jurisdiction or shore resources.

The premiers were set to resume public debates on tomorrow. If no agreement is reached, Mr Trudeau has decided whether to use his earlier threat to unilaterally bring in a constitution.

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Minister facing trial for murder addresses House

From Frederick Cleary, Salisbury, Sept. 12

In what must be an unprecedented situation in Commonwealth parliamentary history, a government minister awaiting trial for murder took his seat here this week and made a speech.

Mr Edgar Tekere, the Zimbabwe Minister of Manpower, Planning and Development, who goes on trial later this month accused of murdering a white farmer in August, walked into the House of Assembly in a battle-type uniform and spoke in the committee of supply on the vote for his ministry.

None of the 32 MPs present asked questions when the committee chairman put the vote up for discussion. But Mr Tekere stood up to attack Zimbabwe's "evil yesterday" in the sphere of manpower utilisation and expressed pride in his newly created ministry.

Concluding his speech, which was heard in silence, he told the House: "Finally I think I owe an explanation to members here. I am standing before them as a man who has just come out of prison. I still belong to the State. I have been written about me. Fine, I am a rogue. The day for reckoning is coming. Thank you."

Mr Tekere sat down and there was silence when the chairman called for further debate. When the vote was approved Mr Tekere rose and said:

"The minister is out on a £33,000 bail. Grenade attack: A man was killed and nine people were injured when a grenade was thrown at a bus terminus beside a beerhall in the Chinwiza African suburb near Salisbury last night. The injured people's condition was later said to be not serious.

Several thousand former Zania guerrillas owing allegiance to Mr Robert Mugabe the Zimbabwe Prime Minister, are due to move into the suburb soon from the assembly camps scattered round the country. They are expected to bring their weapons with them.

Confrontation with Phalangists improves public image of the Lebanese Army

From Tewfik Mishawi, Beirut, Sept. 12

Lebanon's regular Muslim and Christian Army passed a difficult test to prove its impartiality this week when 400 troops, led by tanks and field artillery, stormed the Christian-populated suburb of Hadath on the southern outskirts of the capital.

At least eight people, including two soldiers, were killed and more than 20 others wounded in two successive days of heavy fighting with militiamen of the right-wing Phalangists. Three ceasefires collapsed soon after they were arranged, and the fourth, hammered out last night, was still holding today.

But tension in the suburb is still running high. Hadath, with a population of

about 15,000, is one of the few Beirut suburbs around which the newly-built Lebanese Army has been stationed to deter factional fighting. Although part of the population is aligned to the powerful Phalangist group, many more sympathize or are loyal to its right-wing rivals, the National Liberal Party, led by former President, Camille Chamoun.

After the National Liberal Party's crippling defeat in a massive Phalangist assault on July 7, the Phalangists became the dominating force throughout the Christian-controlled areas north of Beirut.

Subsequent Phalangist efforts to win over National Liberal members led to an armed conflict in Hadath on August 29 in which Mr Chamoun's son, Dany, was wounded.

The attempt to a univocal Beirut, this week's clashes with the Army occupied several Ph offices and took more prisoners.

The Army's det action to keep control improved its public image in two ways. It has helped the long-held impression the Army is powerless from the numerous armed private militia it has spread to Muslim and leftist camps.

Mr Basim Gemay Phalangist militia can has strongly attacked it, accusing it of "stealing" its arms.

Ethiopian leader accuses US of preparing for war

From Addis Ababa, Sept. 12.—Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, the Ethiopian leader, severely criticized American foreign policy today, calling the recently completed United States-Somalia agreement on Berbera port a direct threat to Ethiopia and a prelude to renewed warfare in the Horn of Africa.

Speaking at celebrations marking the sixth anniversary of Ethiopia's Marxist revolution, he also accused the United States of edging the world closer to war by establishing military bases around the world, increasing defence spending, and failing to ratify the Salt-2 agreement with the Soviet Union.

"United States imperialism, under the banner of the 'Carter Doctrine', is currently in the midst of a frenzied preparation to plunge the world into a devastating war," he said.

Colonel Mengistu said American support of Somalia was tantamount to a United States-Somalia decision to jointly attack Ethiopia.

"What today constitutes a great threat to Ethiopia is the establishment of military bases at Berbera and Kisumu," he said.

Ethiopia says Somali regulars are again involved in fighting in the Ogaden region. Somalia denies this, but Western diplomatic sources said they believe as many as 6,000 Somali regulars were committed in June and July near the ancient walled city of Harar.

Diplomats here said Ethiopia opposes the United States agreement to provide Somalia with defensive weapons because it believes these will eventually find their way to the guerrillas and encourage Somalia to attempt another invasion of south-east Ethiopia.

"They say they know the Somalis and that the Somalis are irredentists," commented one envoy. "They believe Somalia will manipulate any country they have an agreement with for arms they'll use in the Ogaden, as they did with the Soviets."—AP.

Big population rise in Africa: homelands

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, Sept. 12

South Africa's population increased by five million 27 per cent, to 23,771,970 between 1980 and 1970. Between 1980 and 1970, the population of the official homelands increased by 1.5 million.

The figure excludes the homelands of Bophuthatswana and Dr Tsebe's Pekaia. The Department of Statistics said the population of the other black homelands increased by 1.5 million, or 53 per cent, in the years.

It was no doubt in the census of Mr Pieter Botha, the Minister, announced important policy steps Transvaal National 1 days ago that there was to homeland consolidation.

South Africa's white population is now estimated at 4,532,744 (a growth rate of 1.5 per cent a year); the population of the black homelands is 1,500,000 (2.5 per cent a year).

In terms of total population, the whites increased by 1.5 million, or 25 per cent, while the blacks increased by 1.5 million, or 53 per cent.

The figures for the population of the white population of the Orange Free State, which rose only 4 per cent in the 10 years, are 1,100,000. The Transvaal, which had the high growth rate, rose by 1.5 million, or 25 per cent.

Labour's uphill task at Australian polls

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne, Sept. 12

There the Government has 85 seats, a majority of 43 over the Labour's 38. It seems likely that there will be some swing to Labour, which will hold all its seats, but victory looks remote.

Without a real issue, the economy will again have most influence, and there is justification for saying the Fraser Government has made progress, even though inflation and unemployment are still a thorn in its side.

Still, inflation has been brought down to about 11 per cent, which is impressive by Western standards.

But this price has been unemployment. Figures just released show that it is still increasing. The number of unemployed rose by 6,400 in August, bringing the total to 331,200 or 5.9 per cent of the work force.

With the disastrous economic mismanagement of the Whitlam years still in the public memory, Labour is clearly going to have considerable difficulty convincing voters that it can handle the economy better than the government.

So far, Labour has not pulled anything out of the hat, and there is no sign that it will.

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[illegible]



LIBERALS WAIT UPON EVENTS

A party leader has three principal tasks at the annual conference: to spark the enthusiasm of the followers, to give them a sense of direction, and to consolidate his or her own position. Mr David Steel is not an especially inspirational leader, but he won the approval of the Liberal Conference yesterday in part because of the way he attacked upon Mrs Thatcher and the favour of his commitment to civil rights.

The most distinctive feature of his leadership, however, both in strength and in weakness, has been that he has consistently offered his party a definite strategy for a return to power. He believes that this is impossible unless the present mould of British politics is broken, and that the best chance of achieving this lies in co-operating with others who occupy the centre ground. This was the rationale behind the Lib-Lab pact. It was designed to demonstrate that Liberals could form an effective partnership with others and thereby to encourage Labour's Social Democrats to split away from their party's left wing.

The same strategy now makes Mr Steel eager for a pact with Labour, disdains, or indeed Tory disdains if there are any. This would be the formation of a broader, unified centre party, whatever its title might be. He sees that for such a policy to be successful there would have to be some kind of electoral pact, as well as co-operation in a new

A PLEBISCITE WITHOUT AUTHORITY

Thursday's plebiscite in Chile, and the overwhelming recorded vote in support of the military regime's constitutional proposals, cannot be taken as a normal democratic expression of Chilean opinion. Like the plebiscite called in January, 1978, it was held in conditions in which opponents of the government's proposals were at an enormous disadvantage; and there was no right of independent control of the polling procedures. Señor Eduardo Frei, for instance, the former President and a man who still enjoys considerable prestige in Chile, was allowed to make a public speech in which he called for rejection of the proposals, but he was not allowed access to television, and the media as a whole were overwhelmingly in support of the government. The political parties remained banned and authorities even went to the lengths of detaining more than 100 people who had been publicly calling for a "No" vote.

No-one would deny that there is a body of support in Chile for the military regime, partly because of memories of the mismanagement and shortages of the Allende regime which the armed forces overthrew in 1973, though many of those who originally welcomed the military coup have since become disillusioned. For these are just questions that any Chileans have raised from the regime's economic policy, and the government made a last-minute bid for their support with

PUBLIC SECTOR PAY IS CRITICAL

announcing for the more affluent early bargains of this time pay round is already in progress, but the new current is not yet set in decisively. Yesterday's encouraging evidence from the retail price index should help to moderate times. An annual inflation rate of 15.5 per cent still cannot be considered satisfactory, but the fall likely to continue in coming months.

Many workers, of course, cannot count on an increase in their inflation. Already last year, a ruling preoccupation with a "going rate" was becoming a concern in many cases by workers' concern not to jeopardise the financial position of the company, or which their jobs depended, or news of more solvent, and reductions in pay. In a similar reaction is likely to be more common this year. There have even been instances, in small, precariously placed companies, of workers prepared to take a cut in pay on the principle that a job is better than no job. There was an ironic juxtaposition in yesterday's news: Vauxhall's Luton workers decided in secret ballot to accept an eight per cent offer, while hospital engineers were rejecting 13 per cent. Most of the Vauxhall employees are already working only two days a week and the company's losses last year were £31m. The motor industry as a whole is the sector where the recession has been felt most sharply. Yet last month, shop stewards at British Leyland declared unanimously to make a claim for 20 per cent and union leaders at Ford (which has been surviving relatively well) drew up a claim amounting to substantially more. But it is not clear that they speak for those they represent. It was the BL shop stewards who tried unsuccessfully last year to secure rejection of an offer which brought most workers more than eight per cent, but shop stewards have already abandoned a 25 per cent claim to help their company, where nearly 12,000 men are on a two or three day week.

Anxiety of this kind scarcely affects the hospital engineers. The comparison emphasises the crucial importance for the government of a realistic pay policy for its own employees (direct and indirect). The engineers are a small group; well-placed to cause disruption to the enterprise they

Secondary choices

on Professor Geoffrey Warner. I am sure that many university chers will sympathise with the expressed by Mr Peter Dines. I reported in your columns on September 9 that broader entry requirements for higher education are desirable. Certainly, as the head of university history department, I would be delighted if all students going to us had two A levels, plus one intermediate level (in a foreign language, maths or a science, and say, economics) over, to the pattern he suggests. If we tried to insist upon this, I have no doubt that the same would immediately become an imposing, to use Mr Dines's phrase, "vicious choice" for those who wanted to take less demanding subjects at I level. The fact is that there are those who would deny the university any say in setting standards

and/or subject requirements for entry into higher education on the ground that this leads to a distortion of the school curriculum. Indeed, their readiness to lay down the law to others in this respect is matched only by the hostility of their reaction to anyone who has the temerity to suggest that interested parties outside the schools should have some control over what they do.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY WARNER,
2 Farley Road,
Stoneygate,
Leicester,
September 11.

The Pope and England

From Mr C. A. F. Warner.
Sir: (Peter Nichols (September 5) makes two points in his article on the Pope's visit to England and Wales which relate to members of

the Church of England. He says, "The Pope has still to show how deep his interest is in Anglicanism," and "an English contribution to Catholicism... means largely an insistence on a fair handling of the problems..."

The Pope's interest in Anglicanism would most movingly be shown if he requested to be taken to the Martyrs' Memorial at Oxford in memory of the martyrs of the Bishops' Conference and Ridley in 1555, and of Archbishop Cranmer in 1556, there to lay a wreath, as he did for Jewish victims of persecution in Poland.

His fair handling of the problems would involve the release from the Vatican library of any documents relating to the English Reformation.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. F. WARNER,
51 Bantock Gardens,
Wolverhampton,
September 7.

was pressed by the more open-minded members of the regime, who saw it as a way of at least setting a term to the present system, dominated as it is by President Pinochet, and of reducing hostility from abroad. The transitional period was designed to allow time for completing their programme of changes in social, economic and administrative matters. But the hardliners have had their say, they have succeeded in prolonging the transitional period from the five years originally proposed, to eight, and the presidential term of office from six to eight. So the immediate upshot is the continuation for several years of President Pinochet's rule, marked as it has been by its particularly brutal repression.

Miss Claire Wilson's claims to having been tortured in Santiago indicate how little things have changed in Chile. Many others have certainly suffered in this way. Her case reinforces the doubts about the Government's wisdom in deciding to restore diplomatic relations with Chile, to ambassadorial level and to lift its arms embargo. It is understandable that the Conservatives should be drawn to Chile because of its espousal of monetarist principles, though in different circumstances from those of this country, and because of its trade possibilities. But they appear to have been blind to, or heedless of, the reality of what was going on.

serve, which has no shortage of customers and is in no danger of being forced into bankruptcy. They seek their traditional parity with workers in the Civil Service, who caught the Government in a less rigorous mood some months ago. But other groups in the NHS, including the nurses, have already settled for about 13 per cent.

The case is similar with the local authorities, preparing to negotiate with their manual workers in the first big public sector contest of the season. The Chancellor insisted on Wednesday that the 13 per cent limit applied also to them, and that comparability was no longer relevant. But overtly or not, it will continue to be a psychological factor. This year, public sector workers may find fewer advantageous comparisons to make with the private sector. Workers in the private sector, however, will certainly be looking over their shoulders at the public sector. If public sector pay is not belatedly brought under control, then eventually, when the immediate constraints of recession diminish, it will supply the incentive and pretext for a new bout of inflation.

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Yours faithfully,
C. A. F. WARNER,
51 Bantock Gardens,
Wolverhampton,
September 7.

Sale of arms to Chile

From Mr David Winnick, MP for Walsall, North (Labour).
Sir, You published a letter from me on August 11 in which I expressed strong opposition to the lifting of the arms embargo to Chile in view of the obvious repressive nature of the military dictatorship and the wide use of torture there.

The case of Miss Claire Wilson and her friend which has since come to light (report, September 11) should surely leave the Government in no doubt that the selling of arms to the junta is totally unacceptable to British opinion.

Mr Ridley, the Foreign Office minister, said this week that the position had improved in Chile up to six weeks ago when an assassination had occurred; yet it was the same Mr Ridley who, replying to a parliamentary question earlier this year, stated that the Government had shown its concern over the lack of improvement in the human rights position in Chile by voting for a critical United Nations resolution on the subject.

Perhaps the Prime Minister could be asked if her Administration will agree to the Minister of State at the Ministry of Defence on March 10 in the Lords, when he said that the Government would not export arms to a country which is guilty of torture or to repressive regimes; that is quite clear policy, he added. Indeed it is quite clear, but how long is it going to take to put it into effect?

Yours etc,
DAVID WINNICK,
House of Commons.

The Old Vic 'Macbeth'

From Mrs Alexandra Whitfield.
Sir, If no one better qualified comes to the support of Mr Timothy West, perhaps you can find space for this letter.

To describe his interview about the Old Vic production of *Macbeth* as a "despicable act of artistic betrayal" (letter, September 6) is surely manifest nonsense. The only artistic betrayal would have been for Mr West to pretend he was in sympathy with the production. I suspect Mr Bryan Forbes may prove to the effect that they need to be as a piece of commercial folly. Charisma (and who is more "charismatic" than Peter O'Toole?) and controversy have a pretty strong box office appeal.

The person whose media appearance did surprise and shock me was Mr Forbes himself when arriving at the stage door the night after the reviews and being questioned by reporters, he said, "with an air of conscious virtue, right, and the presidential seal of office from six to eight. So the immediate upshot is the continuation for several years of President Pinochet's rule, marked as it has been by its particularly brutal repression."

Yours sincerely,
ALEXANDRA WHITFIELD,
1 Dry Hill Road,
Tonbridge,
Kent.

Welsh television

From the Reverend D. G. Richards.
Sir, Setting aside the morality of broken promises, one must ask which is to be the cheaper in the long run—financing the broadcasting of Welsh programmes on one channel or financing the combat of public disorder which will arise from the long queues for the Government does not change its mind.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. RICHARDS,
The Vicarage,
Arthog,
Merioneth.

Missing the point

From Mr Simon Cave.
Sir, Mr Hourmouziou (September 6) asks what has become of breast-pocket handkerchiefs. Well, in these days of figure-hugging jeans, ladies have nowhere to keep handkerchiefs. So, in times of need, husbands or escorts have to help out.

Generous proffering of one's ordinary handkerchief produces cries of "No, not that one; haven't you got a clean one?" I used to go general; that's where they've all gone.

Yours, etc,
SIMON CAVE,
3 Model Cottages,
East Sheen, SW14.

Mind and its policies

From Professor Sir Martin Roth.
Sir, I have had experience of the field of mental health will know of the valuable and sensitive work which has been done and is being done by Mind and its numerous local branches. However, some of the recent activities of the staff at the Charing Cross Hospital and the Institute of Psychiatry, which appears to inspire them, are compelling many professional and lay members of the organisation to reconsider their position. Believing that Mind can no longer be supported as an instrument of its original aims, I have resigned from being one of its vice-presidents. I believe my reasons for doing so are of public concern.

The attacks on the conduct of the staff of Broadmoor have been sustained in recent issues of *Mind* and in a letter to one of the national newspapers. Mr Larry Gostin has repeated the allegation that patients there have been subjected to assault and cruelty. Mind had given sensational publicity to the first accounts of ill-treatment at Broadmoor, before the police had completed the enquiries which found no substance in them. An investigation by the DHSS has also exonerated the staff of Broadmoor. But Mind continues to impugn their integrity. The behaviour of Mr Gostin and his colleagues in these matters conforms to a pattern which has now become all too familiar. Premature, tendentious and often inaccurate disclosure, and the suggestions of public protest and indignation are a preferred to the quiet, reason, dignity and consideration one has the right to expect from an organisation dedicated to promoting the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Britain's economic policy abroad

From the Director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs.
Sir, Sir John Wilton's challenge (September 5) to the "pundits of Chatham House" finds them unanimous that they have been misunderstood. We are not so dull at this institute as to ignore the intensive efforts now made by the Diplomatic Service to help British businessmen export to the countries to which they are accredited. A number of recent Chatham House publications have recorded and discussed this, the institute being Mr Valerie York's policy paper, *The Gulf in the 1980s*, which as a former Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Sir John may have read.

What the members of our Policy Studies Unit had in mind in their implied criticism of the foreign policy machine was something altogether more fundamental—namely the way in which the United Kingdom's external economic policy is made. There is an opinion, widespread among those in this building who have studied the matter and accurately reflected in Mr Peter Hennessy's admirable article about us, (September 2) that present arrangements are defective in this field.

As Sir John Wilton implies, the field is in fact more like a jungle, and is inhabited by a wide variety of fauna, some carnivorous, others not. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Treasury, the Bank of England, the Department of Industry, the Ministry of Trade, the Department of Energy, and the Ministry of Agriculture all have corners of it, while lesser entities such as the political parties, the IUC, the CBI, and Chatham House can occasionally be glimpsed swinging from branch to branch as best they can. The Treasury is undoubtedly the king of these beasts, being strong enough to invade the territory of all the others and to prevent their invading its own; but it lacks the power, or indeed the inclination, to coordinate the activities of the others.

Two questions arise from this situation. The first is whether the FCO, which is responsible for co-ordinating the broad political consequences of our external economic actions, makes a sufficiently effective contribution to the formulation of economic policy. Several examples from the last two or three years—including decisions about the European monetary system, the UN Conference on Trade and Development and our general economic relations

Football violence

From Mr Fritz Spiegel.
Sir, It is hardly surprising that the National Union of Licensed Victuallers (report, September 10) welcomes a ban on the sale of alcohol in the bars of football grounds. Here, in Liverpool, the grounds are well-nigh surrounded by pubs, which do a roaring trade between opening-time and kick-off. Hooligans are well ranked up before they even enter the stadium.

Surely, the Saturday afternoon football match is an important factor well known to all my pupils: that a fine, however heavy, is an encouragement rather than a deterrent to the soccer hooligan. The fact of his having been convicted and punished brings him honour and glory in the eyes of those of his peers whom he wishes to impress; while the actual fine doesn't cost him a penny, being invariably paid in full by a whip-round among the offender's terrace-mates.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL GROSVENOR MYER,
Head of Upper School,
Chesham School,
Gilbert Road,
Cambridge,
September 11.

Footnote to Rabelais

From Dr P. J. Bayley.
Sir, Garry O'Connor's handsome birthday tribute to Jean-Louis Barrault (September 6) prompts me to add a footnote to the history of Rabelais. The play becomes part of the fast-crystallizing mythology of May 1968, and its significance as a cultural watershed.

However much it may represent a turning-point in Barrault's own career, the idea of adapting Rabelais's text for the stage had already been conceived and implemented earlier that year by an amateur group of student actors from the Ecole Normale Supérieure in the Rue d'Ulm under the direction of a *normalien* called, if I remember correctly, Jacques Nichet. The fact that one of their thought-

provoking and extremely funny performances was actually interrupted by the news that rioting had broken out in the Place de la Sorbonne dates the enterprise quite precisely.

M Barrault's own creativeness and commitment are not, of course, in doubt; but historians of drama might wish to avoid the sort of pre-packed instant cultural history which last year led a Parisian student solemnly to inform me that all of Roland Barthes's works had been written after May 1968, and could indeed, as a matter of "philosophical necessity", not have been written before.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BAYLEY,
Gonville and Caius College,
Cambridge,
September 7.

illusory. The harm inflicted on individuals, families, and the community is likely to prove serious and difficult to repair.

When carried to extremes by mental health pressure groups, some other counter-therapeutic ideas have led to a Pyrrhic victory as far as patients and communities are concerned. The effects are now clearly in evidence. As Dr Steadman, a distinguished American investigator, has recently put it, patients in the United States are being freed to die, with their rights on.

To use a civil liberties campaign as a major instrument of policy is to get things wholly out of proportion and to obscure the need for, and the right to, treatment which protects lives and the welfare of many people and their dependents.

The strategy employed by Mind is bound to lose it the support and respect of many of those who have helped build the organization. For it will stir up the ancient fears, superstitions and the derision which have in the past enveloped the mentally ill and those who care for them: those who have in the past given their effort and allegiance in Mind and many in the local branches who continue to work with care and sympathy in the cause of mental health have aimed at objectives far removed from the causes recently espoused by some members of its Headquarters Staff.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN ROTH, Professor of Psychiatry,
University of Cambridge,
New Addenbrooke's Hospital,
270 Hills Road,
Cambridge.

Nuclear industry and the public

From the General Secretary of the Engineers' and Managers' Association.

I think that your editorial in today's issue ("Dourney disclosures", September 11) is a fair one. The nuclear industry does have to run itself as an open book to demonstrate to the public that they can have confidence in the way it handles its affairs and very quickly.

There are however some aspects of this to which I could perhaps draw your attention.

First, the industry has yet to fully acclimatise itself to this situation. It is run overwhelmingly by engineers and scientists who know their job and whose training is to get on with things rather than to talk about them. They are not at home in the field of public relations. There is no question but that this is a defect which the industry has to remedy, and very quickly.

There is equally however a responsibility on the media. It is overlooked that one of the important recommendations of the Kennedy report was that the media should ensure that journalists who handle the affairs of the nuclear industry should be equipped to understand the technology and the issues about which they are reporting. Equally it is incumbent on the media to deal with such a major industry fairly. There was no sense of fairness in the cheap journalistic treatment of the Dourney incident by *Panorama*. This kind of treatment makes those who run the industry less able to communicate properly with the public, since they do not know how to cope with it. The industry should be helped by the media to communicate freely, not the reverse.

Lastly, I am sure it would help everyone if other major industries handling hazardous materials or processes were also required to publicize every incident, however trivial, as the nuclear industry is now required to do. (I am not incidentally suggesting that Dourney's inability to account for two missing fuel elements was trivial.)

If, for example, the chemical, oil, gas, coal mining, and transport industries, to name just a few, were put on the same footing as the nuclear industry, the public would get much less of the relative risks associated with these different technologies and the nuclear industry would not feel that it was being singled out for attack.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LYONS,
Engineers' and Managers' Association,
Station House,
Fox Lane North,
Chertsey,
Surrey,
September 11.

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Surrey,
September 11.

Effects of aid for Poland

From Mr Anthony Rudd.
Sir, I would not be as hopeful as your correspondent, Zbigniew Mieczkowski, is in his letter to you today (September 5) that the willingness on the part of the West to help Poland economically will lead to détente between East and West. In fact, I fear that the reverse may be the case.

Poland's economy is indeed already very heavily dependent upon the willingness of the West to go on providing credits for its ailing industry. The withdrawal of such credits would undoubtedly lead to complete collapse. It may be the case that further substantial finance will be necessary if serious difficulties are to be avoided.

However, this dependence undoubtedly puts the Polish Government in a position of sole delicacy. This is why the economic link with Russia was heavily stressed in the Government's statement earlier this week. It is to be remembered that when Marshall aid was first offered and the Czechoslovakian Government to add a condition of acceptance of the proffered assistance, Moscow countermanded the tentative move which in consequence was immediately abandoned by the Czechs. This was one of the events which sealed off that nation behind the iron curtain.

The paradox of Poland's position, namely its economic dependence on the West and its continuing political dependence on the East, has yet to be resolved.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY RUDD,
Rowe Rudd and Company,
63 London Wall, EC2,
September 5.

Thoughts for your penny

From the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
Sir, When reviewing the pricing policy for its publications—as suggested by your correspondent Mr Claydon (September 6)—HMSO is obliged to take account of the requirement laid upon it to cover its costs.

Publications of narrow interest, like the *Serpent* interview report, are never going to be best-sellers and pricing them as if they were could only lead to heavy losses that the taxpayer would have to underwrite. The best that HMSO can do is to keep a tight rein on the costs of production and distribution.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD M. THIMONT,
Her Majesty's Stationery Office,
Sovereign House,
Boltup Street,
Norwich,
September 11.

Person to person

From Mr P. H. May.
Sir, We stand in imminent personal danger. After suffering, during the past few years, Chairperson, Handyperson, Person Friday and a host of others, I have today seen an advertisement for a *Paris Person*. Merely, it is not specified whether the parts required are public or private. In the name of God (or should I say Heaven Person?), cannot we have an end of this nonsense?

I am, Sir,
Yours personally,
PETER H. MAY,
128 Queen's Road,
Wimbledon, SW20,
September 11.

In Bonn, officials emphasized that the German government was opposed to the indexation of any raw materials. They said Germany is opposed to the idea of cartels such as Opec that would act as price regulators.

In Bonn, officials emphasized that the German government was opposed to the indexation of any raw materials. They said Germany is opposed to the idea of cartels such as Opec that would act as price regulators.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

National Savings

More index-linked schemes to ponder

On Tuesday the Government went significantly further down the road of indexation when it announced substantial extensions to the existing range of index-linked National Savings schemes.

In a quick sortie to raise an extra £1,300m from National Savings before the end of this financial year—and to ease the pressures in the gilt-edged market—the Government is giving the public a little more of what it so clearly wants.

While sales of other National Savings products have been distinctly lacklustre, the index-linked Retirement issue of National Savings, the so-called "granny bonds", and index-linked Save-As-You-Earn (SAYE) have proved attractive. The Treasury jumped the gun slightly with its announcement and not all the details of the new schemes have been finalised. But the broad picture is that a new issue of granny bonds for both men and women aged 60 and over will go on sale in mid-November with a maximum holding of £5,000. The present issue will be withdrawn. The monthly £30 limit for SAYE is to be increased to £50 some time in the near future, but the actual date is unknown.

Removing the blatant injustice which made men wait until they were 65 before becoming eligible for the granny bonds, is both welcome and significant. With the new issue, presentation of the state pension book will no longer be proof of age.

The Government could ask prospective purchasers to show their birth certificates, but that is, frankly, unlikely. It will probably remain up to the individual to disclose his age without further check. This means in principle that the Government can, whenever it wishes, tap the market more vigorously by lowering the age qualification in stages.

But by increasing maximum holdings to £5,000, in addition to the £1,200 that those of retirement age can hold of the

present issue, the Government has, ironically, added to problems of the elderly.

When the maximum holding of granny bonds was £500, or even the present level of £1,200, it was easy enough to advise anyone who could take up their maximum allocation, particularly as the rate of inflation was rising.

But the new maximum holding of £4,200 (£8,400 for a married couple) will represent possibly all or at least a substantial part of the life savings of many elderly people.

Should all their savings be tucked away into non-productive index-linked bonds, particularly as the rate of inflation is now expected, and is quite likely, to come down?

The Government is in effect gambling with small savers' money to bring down the rate of inflation which will reduce the index-linked appreciation of the granny bonds. If inflation is cured, then there should be prospects of real returns from other forms of investment in other words the combination of capital growth and income will exceed the rate of inflation.

Small savers who put all their money into index-linked bonds will themselves be gambling against the success of the Government's economic policy. Granny bonds are an investment of outstanding value during a period of rampant inflation, as people who bought them back in June, 1975, know to their profit. The original £300 stake bought then is now worth £1,060.48.

The latest retail price index figures indicate that the cost of living is now running at an annual rate of 16.3 per cent, and the official forecasts are that it will be down to 13.5 per cent by the end of the second quarter of 1981.

If this forecast is correct—and not all the pundits are confident that it is—then it is a good time to consider index-linked securities, or go for a fixed interest investment which

will be returning more than 13.5 per cent next year? (Equity options, of course, could offer an even more attractive prospect.)

For example, the present conventional 19th issue of National Savings certificates offers the equivalent of a tax-free return of 10.3 per cent a year, a gross return of 14.73 per cent to basic rate taxpayers. If the promised land of single figure inflation ever does arrive, then 14.73 per cent for these next five years will be an excellent buy. The issue's shelf life must be coming to an end as the rate of inflation declines, so £1,500 here (the maximum holding) should not go amiss.

Another option is the five-year term shares from building societies. These are returning 17.85 per cent gross but the yield is, of course, tied to the fluctuating basic building society share rate. Societies' five-year term shares pay a guaranteed rate of return two points above the basic rate.

If the basic share rate dropped to 8.5 per cent from its present 10.5 per cent level—which in view of the societies' response to the extra index-linked schemes does not seem imminent—the gross return on five-year term shares would still be 15 per cent, a positive return over the projected inflation rate.

Worth a second glance is the Government's anti-inflationary policy succeeds are local authority loans at present 13.5 per cent for periods from three to five years.

When the new granny bonds go on sale in November, it may be easier to gauge the right course of action as the economic indicators should be clearer to read. Meanwhile, the present issue of granny bonds have scarcity value, and a £1,200 exposure to index-linking is probably desirable. So it is, while topping up your holdings while the issue remains on sale.

Margaret Sione

Taxation

Some very useful losses

An investment where your capital profits can be taxed at a maximum of 30 per cent and any loss would be deducted against income tax up to 60 per cent or even 75 per cent seems too good to be true.

Yet, this possibility has been introduced by this year's Finance Act (Section 37) and gives a welcome and unexpected boost to the new Unlisted Securities Market (USM).

On Monday, the Stock Exchange is expected to confirm new regulations governing the conduct of companies which want their shares to be dealt on the Unlisted Securities Market. As a result, the requirements for companies will be almost as stringent as for quoted securities, although for tax and company law purposes the shares will still not be treated as quoted.

Indeed, at present, under rule 163(2), the approval of the Stock Exchange Council has to be sought for every transaction in this market. Under the new rules, dealings will take place freely.

The new provision in the Finance Act 1980 allows individuals who incur losses on disposal after April 5, 1980, on certain equities in United Kingdom trading companies, to set off their losses against income tax instead of capital gains tax. The relief only applies to unquoted companies which should include USM shares.

The tax benefit applies to those who subscribe for shares, not to those who buy them. Only the fortunate few who have made successful applications for new issues will be able to benefit. Investors who buy the shares in the secondary market from the original

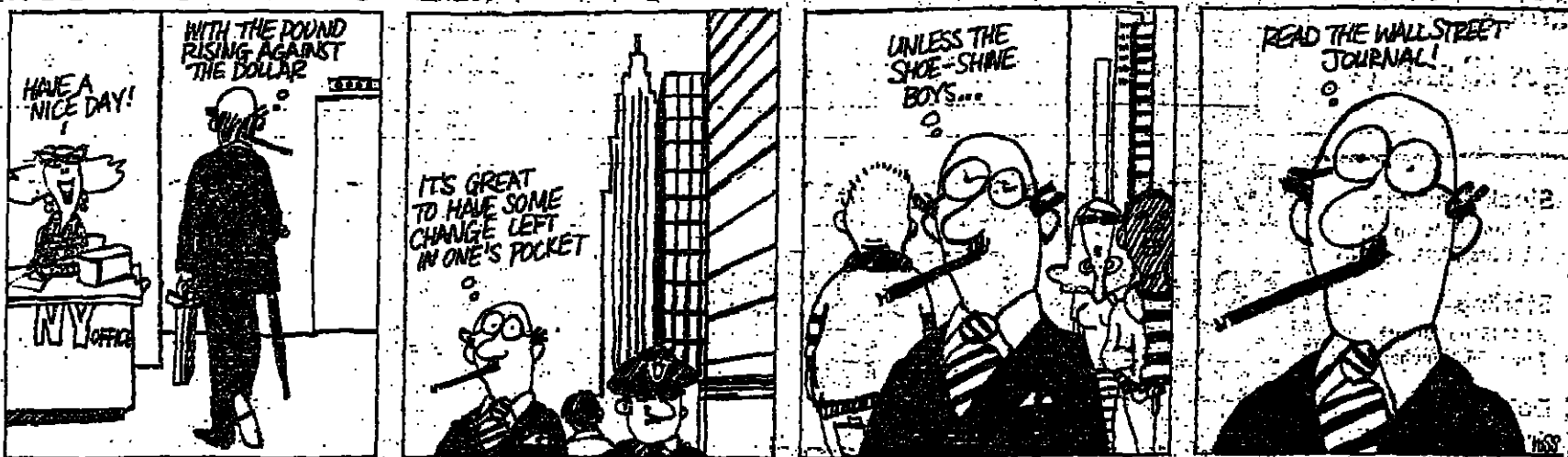
subscribers will be in the conventional tax position—with both gains and losses subject to capital gains tax rules and rates only.

Losses on unquoted securities are normally allowed the income tax relief only if they are realised as a result of a disposal at full market value. Given that there is an actively traded market supervised by the Stock Exchange, this should be easier to establish than with other unquoted securities.

Investors should remember that the relief is not automatic—it has to be claimed in writing within two years of the end of the fiscal year in which the loss is realised.

Danby Bloch and Raymond Godfrey

HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



Consumer rights

How to complain about bad service

The consumer lobby is uncomfortably aware that it is now, under a Conservative government and in time of recession, living in a different world from that it basked in for the past decade. No good now seeking the answer to every problem in some new committee or piece of legislation. The breeding season for quagmires is over, and the species itself is threatened.

Mrs Sally Oppenheim, the Minister for Consumer Affairs, has spoken zealously of a leaner consumer movement about consumers standing on their own feet, and fighting their own battles.

So Rule One for consumers fighting their own battles beforeword should be to copy all relevant correspondence and send it to Mrs Oppenheim, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1, so that she can see for herself how you are getting on.

Rule Two must be to work with quagmires that do exist much harder than they have ever been worked before. In the case of the nationalised industries this means making much greater use of the various consumer councils set up to act as watchdogs in the public interest. They are not, admittedly, over-endowed with teeth and have often been deliberately starved of information by the industries whose activities they are supposed to oversee.

Left to languish without a regular diet of public indignation to drive them on, they might indeed become quite useless and have to be put down (as the Government have vaguely threatened). If that happens, the bill-foddering consumer will be among the losers.

The network of consumer councils in the nationalised industries throughout the country is complicated and still too little known. Broadly each electricity board, gas region and airport has its consumer or consultative council. There are also eleven transport users consultative councils, whose areas inconveniently fail to coincide with British Rail's operating divisions.

These are there to help deal with individual complaints about the industries' services, and their addresses may be found in local telephone directories, on the backs of electricity and gas bills, or advertised at railway stations and airports.

When the complainant goes beyond an individual problem and concerns policy issues or systems failures, it can properly be raised at national level. The appropriate bodies to contact are:

The National Gas Consumers Council, 130 Jermyn St, London SW1.

The Electricity Consumers Council, 119 Margate Road, London NW1.

The Central Transport Consultative Committee, 34 Great Marlborough St, London W1.

The Domestic Coal Consumers Council, 2 Bathill Row, London EC1.

The Post Office Users National Council, Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, London SE1.

The Air Transport Users Committee, 125 Kingsway, London WC2.

There are no consumer councils to keep watch on water authorities or over municipal or national bus services, but a writing bureau for complaints about them might be found at The National Consumer Council, 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1. Remember also, your MP.

Other opportunities arise from time to time, and you should make the most of them. Keep the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, firmly in mind.

When the commission is called upon to investigate monopolies, merger proposals, or alleged restrictive practices, it is open to any member of the public to make representations,

submit evidence, and unburden his complaints.

There has, perhaps, been no shortage of consumer topics for one MMC inquiry at present proceeding—that into commuter services in London and the South-East.

Mrs Oppenheim has already announced her intention to refer the Severn-Trent Water Authority to the MMC, and some consumers in its area, indignant at increased water charges, have been jumping the gun by seeking to submit evidence before the references are even made.

This, at least, shows the right attitude. Under the new Competition Act the strengthened MMC is obliged to work as a much faster tribunal than was its work. With only six months—or, at very most nine—to investigate and report, those who want their evidence to be considered must be quick off the mark.

What individual consumers could have to say about the Central Electricity Generating Board (whose "customers" are the electricity boards) is perhaps harder to imagine, but it cannot have escaped anyone's attention that the CEGB's forecasting of future demand, on which all their plans are based, has been badly awry; that uncommissioned power stations still abound; and that hugely expensive nuclear programmes are contemplated before any attempt has been made at thorough-going energy conservation.

The Electricity Consumers Council, at least, have weighed in with a series of technical arguments, as thoroughly researched as limited resources allow, and Friends of the Earth and the anti-nuclear lobby will not be letting the opportunity slip either.

MMC references, naturally, do not deal only with nationalised industries. Some in the private sector, such as those proceeding at the moment into the monopolistic supply of tampons and into the trading of shares, originated at least partly in consumer complaints. The Consumers Association even now is campaigning for the Office of Fair Trading to refer the milk distribution industry to the MMC too.

Although the level of information consumers can supply may not always match that available from trade sources, its importance is not to be underestimated. It was information from an individual "mole", working temporarily in a discount store, that first alerted the National Consumer Council to "full-line forgers" (which requires a buyer to purchase quantities of each item in a product range in order to be able to buy any of them) and "tie-in sales" (a stipulation that a buyer must purchase part, or all of his requirements, of a second (tied) product from the supplier of a first (tying) product)—which are, along with preferential discounts to retailers, the subjects of an MMC investigation.

The Office of Fair Trading is certainly anxious to gather more evidence of anti-competitive practices from consumer sources. Hitherto aggressive business "confessors" have been much more productive sources of complaints than the formal which the OFT has found useful in deciding which made to refer to the MMC for further inquiry.

Consumers who get the waters from other authorities than Severn-Trent may wonder why that one has been singled out. Gas showrooms having already been criticised, electric showrooms might bear scrutiny. And what of those in remote areas who have to pay at the electric meter to get a demand to connect themselves to supply? Are they as like victims of anti-competitive practices and an abuse of monopoly powers as "Cash for Gas" (the MMC's hands) customers?

Complaints on subjects in these and any other areas of unfair, restrictive practices, should be addressed to Mr Gordon Barr, the Director-General of Fair Trading, at Field House, Broad Street, London EC1. While evidence to reference which have already been made to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission should go to the at New Court, 45 Carey Street, London WC2. The more serious representations are more likely they are to result in getting something done.

Robin Yarn



The Post Office, gas boards and British Rail, three public bodies whose service is ever the subject of critical attention by users.

A code of conduct for Great Grimpen

A recent committee meeting of the Great Grimpen Mine Investment Club resolved that in view of some of the Wilson report's comments on financial institutions, a sub-committee should be appointed to draft a code of conduct covering the club's investment activities.

The members of this august body were the vicar and his wife, the Reverend Basil and Rosemary Quiche, Prison Officer "Wormwood" Scrubbs from nearby Dartmoor, and Slicklepath's postmistress and trainer with, Ada Blott. The sub-committee has now reported back, and its findings were debated in plenary session last week.

Uniquely in the club's annals, the fruits of these labours were accepted in broad principle, subject to only a few minor alterations. It was, therefore, agreed that the final words should be passed on in the form of an instruction to merchant banker Adrian Lustwort, who was responsible for the portfolio's management, and club secretary, Zenith Siblin's nephew to boot.

Lady Baskerville observed at this point that the word "management" might run into difficulties in any action under the Trade Descriptions Act, given the fund's performance to date. For psychic dashboard, Poggles, the battery of Hound of the Baskervilles, would do a great deal better for a smaller fee, she claimed. The vicar tried to head off this



down rider, clad in his black pyjamas with the gold dragon motif.

(b) In keeping with national efforts to contain the money supply, no distribution of the fund's income would be made until March 31, 1981, when the matter would be reconsidered. Meanwhile, interest and dividends accruing were to be retained in the club's current account for further investment from time to time to an end basis. This effectively shelved another dire problem for the time being—the equitable carve-up of the readies.

(c) It was agreed to support the Council of the Stock Exchange in every particular during these difficult times, especially with regard to their forthcoming action in the Restrictive Practices Court. It was felt appropriate for the club to apply to give evidence on behalf of the Stock Exchange in the course of this hearing, particularly in view of the fact that four and possibly even five of the members of the club were cousins of Agatha Siblin, and idly good chase.

(d) Where possible, committee members should support the club's investments by buying the products of the companies concerned, and encourage fellow-Stockholders to do likewise. Uncaise was expressive as to the possible inappropriateness and incongruity of the proposal under some circumstances, but ultimately the motion was carried.

(e) Stripped by the passion logic of Kevlar, the committee accepted that no interest should be made in the company involved in the transport financing distribution, consumption of imported South African grapefruit or Chilean olives. However, members were also persuaded by an equally passionate appeal from chairman to agree, narrow that involvement in the import of Chilean grapefruit and South African olives was "enough".

Francis Kinsman

THE SECOND ALLIANCE TRUST COMPANY LIMITED

A very favourable year for earnings

Results for year to 31st July

	1980	% Change on 1979
Gross Revenue	£3,340,000	+32
Earnings per Ordinary 25p unit*	10.10p	+40
Total dividend per Ordinary 25p unit*	9.06p	+26
Net Asset Value per Ordinary 25p unit	269.7p	+17

* Including 0.56p arrears of dividend receipts. It is the intention to at least maintain the total dividend at 8.5% in the current year.

Geographical Distribution of Investments

	U.K. Equities	U.S. Equities	European Equities	Other Equities	Fixed Interest	Total
Valuation at 31/7/80 (£'000)	34,054	13,996	1,604	3,641	4,101	57,396
	59%	24%	3%	6%	8%	100%

Extracts from the Chairman's Speech:

Oil and energy sectors have contributed particularly to the 17% increase in net asset value and some substantial profits have been taken.

We have a continuing direct commitment in North Sea oil exploration through City Oil Exploration which will be participating in the seventh round of licences in a consortium led by Union Oil Co. of California.

The year has seen the net investment of £21 million of cash resources, half in the U.S. and half in Japan. An \$8 million line of credit has been arranged to pursue this policy of overseas

investment as opportunities present themselves.

While the emphasis at the moment is on improving the underlying value of our assets, a policy which may in the short term produce little change in earnings, we think our shareholders will at the end of the day benefit both ways from increased income and in capital appreciation of these assets. I believe that despite all the gloomy forebodings with which we are treated almost daily there are good grounds for expecting a better all round performance from Investment Trusts over the years ahead.

Copies of the Report may be obtained from The Secretary, The Second Alliance Trust Company Limited, Meadow House, 64 Reform Street, Dundee DD1 1TJ

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

Claiming married allowance against husband's pension

My husband is 68, having been married for eight years, while I am 58 and working. My husband as a retired insurance company official, receives a pension well above the retirement allowance and with some investment income this totals about £500. My salary is about £500 and I receive some £500 investment income. Could I and should I, claim the married allowance against my husband's pension? I am not sure if the pension is a lump sum or a regular payment. I would like to know if I can claim the married allowance against my husband's pension. I am not sure if the pension is a lump sum or a regular payment. I would like to know if I can claim the married allowance against my husband's pension.

Readers' Forum

This specialist readers' service has been compiled with the help of Ronald Irving, John Drummond and Tony Foreman

First, is there a council regulation prohibiting keeping machines like motor-cycles in the corridors? If not, you are not responsible for the act of a third party in setting fire to your machine, provided you can prove that was the cause. If there is a prohibition against keeping machines in the corridors then you are clearly in breach of it. Nevertheless, you may still not be liable if you can prove ignition was the act of vandals.

Mr R. C. Kirby's letter correctly stresses the unfairness arising from capital gains tax on "deemed" disposals. A case in point has arisen in my family where no sale has taken place, and nobody has made a gain. In the early 1960s a number of shares in a small private company which manages my family estate were put in trustees names for the benefit of my children; these shares were subsequently transferred to my children, after reaching majority and the trustees there by released from their trust. The Revenue are now demand-

ing tax due to the rise in the value of the property, regardless of the fact that no money passed in the transaction and no gain has been made. Who is supposed to pay such a tax? The trustees who have merely carried out a duty of the children who have now received the shares to which they have been entitled for many years?

It would be fair if such a tax were levied if the shares were sold for cash and a gain thereby derived; at present surely 30 per cent of nothing is nil. (J.Y. Oxo).

It is possible for trustees to hold assets as "bare trustees" when the beneficiaries are said to be absolutely entitled to the assets concerned. Where "bare trustees" transfer assets to the beneficiaries no capital gains tax arises. This situation must be contrasted to that where the trustees hold assets for beneficiaries subject to some contingency. In particular, it may well be that your children only became absolutely entitled to the trust assets on attaining their majority. In such a case, a capital gain arising on the disposal of the assets by the trustees to the beneficiaries which takes place upon their becoming absolutely entitled.

Finally, we would mention that the liability to capital gains tax is primarily that of the trustees. But if they have distributed all the assets to the beneficiaries the tax may be payable by them.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Dunlop stars as equities advance

The smallest rise in retail prices for a year and a new Government stock which the gilt dealers received with equanimity made for another good day in the market. In equities, Dunlop again stole the show, climbing 4p to 84p for a two-day rise of 10p. Jobbers shrugged off their normal end-of-account melancholia as a firm tone in equities developed into some heavy buying of leading shares for the new account after 3.30 pm. Most sectors of the market shared in the fun at one stage or other during the day.

Oil saw some of the heaviest buying for several months. Golds moved up sharply and best levels as the gold price tested the £700 level. Electricals were hectic all day despite gloomy news from Thorn EMI's annual meeting, while properties, banks and insurance were all in demand. The FT Index closed 19 up at 508.9 for a gain of 25 points, or more than 5 per cent, during the fortnightly account. Pleased by the underlying tone of the market, dealers expressed confidence that the market was consolidating firmly above the 500 level.

Gilts began firmly, opening overnight levels, some hesitancy developed with the

news of another prime rate increase in the United States and the announcement of the £1,000m long stock. An Exchange 12 per cent 1998 550 paid and with a minimum tender price of £92.1, it was reckoned to be reasonably pitched and when dealings resumed at 4.15 pm prices went a bit better.

Hard on the heels of Cadbury Schweppes' interim profits drop of 3.2 per cent to £21m, comes a firm "buy" recommendation from Capel-Cure Myers. This year, CCM expects profits of £55m against £57.3m, but the real excitement of £71m pretax, with a forecast of £71m pretax. The shares rose another 2 1/2 yesterday - they were 62p before the interim.

Gilts ended showing gains of about 1/2 on list prices at both the long and short ends, although taking account of the previous night's after-hours losses, ending on the day were more like 1 1/2 to 2 1/2. Beecham at 159p and Bowater at 173p both added 3p and Turner & Newall at 110p and P&O at 129p both recovered 4p after recent price slumps. Glaxo was 6p better at 250p

although Fisons went against the trend with a 3p fall to 244p. Leading oil shares came in for heavy buying with Burmah, up 6p to 206p, a feature ahead of next week's results. BP added 6p to 366p and Shell 4p to 416p. Lasso rose 13p to 702p, Ultramar 10p to 378p and Centric 8p to 344p.

Equally firm second liners included Sovereign up 13p to 228p, Aran Energy up 6p to 450.1p and Charterhouse Petroleum 1p better at 86p. Having narrowly failed to break through £700, gold reacted to the Citibank prime rate rise to close 56 up at £687.50 but gold shares held on to sizable gains.

In heavy buying from London, Europe and the Cape Anglo American Gold rose £2 1/2 to 50.1, Blyvoors 41p to 965p and Venterpost 61p to 895p. September dividend news saw Kinross up 31p to 80p, Winklabak up 17p to 207p and Bracken 6p better at 240p.

Also on the back of gold and with results next week Cons Gold at 53p and RTZ at 490p led the field in mining finance with gains of 18p and 12p respectively. Tanks, rumoured still as a takeover target, added 6p to 350p and Charter Consolidated 3p to 253p.

Activity in the bullion market was also good for 8p on Johnson Matthey at 237p.

Akroyds remained in demand among financials, rising 5p to 363p and Standard Chartered rose 18p to 632p. In the home banks Barclays at 446p, Nat West at 406p and Lloyds at 346p all rose 10p and Midland 7p to 363p.

Francic morning trade in properties eased later in the day but conditions remained firm with MEPC up 5p to 257p, Land Securities up 7p to 298p and British Land 4p higher at 971p. Haslemere rose 4p to 378p and Stock Conversion 10p to 500p.

Insurance showed gains across the board with Prudential rising 9p to 252p, Hambro Life 6p to 304p and Eagle Star 6p to 263p. Willis Faber firm 2p to 228p, Royal 15p to 473p and GRE 8p to 360p.

Electric trade in electricals, again one of the busiest sectors, left GEC up 18p to 538p, Racal up 8p to 342p and Plessey up 13p to 267p. Thorn EMI slipped 10p to 362p after the annual meeting, but BICC rose 2p to 143p after withdrawing its bid for Higgs & Hill, down 7p to 87p.

Bowthorpe was in demand among second line electricals rising 13p to 158p.

Equity turnover for September 11 was £123.79m (number of bargains 17,347). Yesterday's most active stocks, according to Exchange Telegraph, were Thorn EMI, GEC, Prudential, Plessey, Turner & Newall, Nat West, Burmah, RTZ, Cadbury Schweppes, Tesco, Unigate, Lloyds, BP, Allied Breweries, and Barclays.

Traded options remained busy with 1,896 contracts. Lend Lease attracted 505 of these, and Land Secs with 346 and CU with 294 were both in demand. Traditional options were fairly busy with calls in gold and oil shares such as Loraline and Aram. A double was done in Double Eagle where the rate is a hefty 50 per cent.

Burnett and Hallamshire plans £11m rights issue

By Margaret Paganio
Burnett and Hallamshire, the largest open-cast coal mining group in Britain, yesterday announced an £11m rights issue to finance further expansion in overseas markets.

The company, which this year reported doubled pretax profits and turnover, proposes to issue 1.7m shares at 650p on the basis of one new share of 25p for every five. The issue is underwritten by Brown Shipley. New shareholders will have the right to receive current dividends of 11.44p gross for the year.

Speculation that the company has purchased stakes in two North American open cast mines in British Columbia and Pennsylvania were confirmed by the chairman, Mr George Helsby, who said that other projects were also being considered and would be completed within 12 months.

Statements that a bid for B & H was about to be made by Charter Consolidated were unfounded, he said. In the year to March 31, when the group reported pretax profits of £7.3m against £3.5m on a turnover increased from £42.5m to £55m, gearing was at a low 10 per cent and bank borrowings approximately £2m. Capital employed at the year end was £28.9m.

The high share price, currently at 735p, down 5p on the news of the rights issue, has been maintained throughout the year.

The new equity, Mr Helsby says, will allow the group, which has mining, construction and commercial interests, the flexibility to continue with its expansionist policy.

Both internal growth and acquisitions have been part of this policy which is now orientated to the North American market.

The company will also be seeking banking facilities to increase borrowings.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Appleyard (I)	66(70)	0.84(0.98)	—(9.23)	—(2.25)	—	—
Blackwood (I)	21(21)	0.006(0.07)	0.6(4.7)	0.5(2.6)	—	—
Castors (F)	18.6(17.09)	1.2(1.35)	14.1(13.1)	1.4(1.47)	1/5	2.3(2.3)
Consolidated (I)	5.3(6.3)	0.5(0.64)	2.85(8.8)	1.8(1.1)	—	—
ICI Group (I)	19.6(17.2)	0.2(0.5)	—	—	31/10	—
George Ingham (I)	1.6(1.09)	0.02(0.025)	—	—	—	—
Edward & Bas (I)	7.6(4.44)	0.16(0.28)	2.7(2.9)	0.9(0.95)	10/10	—
London & L (I)	2.2(1.64)	0.02(0.022)	0.97(0.32)	1.8(1.1)	—	—
McGlinch and Hry (I)	21.7(16.4)	0.55(0.42)	6.8(5.8)	1.8(1.1)	7/11	—
Norvic (I)	7.2(8.1)	0.54(0.1)	—	—	—	—
Geo Oliver (I)	6.18(5.4)	0.26(0.61)	—	—	22/10	—
Glaxo (I)	2.29(2.48)	0.2(0.1)	—	—	31/10	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply net or dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = Loss.

Blackwood slips to loss of £1.2m

By Our Financial Staff

Further damage to the embattled United Kingdom carpet industry is revealed in full year figures from Blackwood, Morton & Sons (Holdings).

Last year's pretax profits of £350,000 turned into a £1.2m loss for the twelve months to June 30. Turnover slumped from £26m to £21.5m.

The loss was struck after interest of £554,000 against £459,000 and depreciation of £401,000 against £414,000.

An extraordinary debit of £362,000 below the line, against a credit last time of £564,000, relates to closure costs of the Liverside factory and reduction in redundancy costs as well as a property disposal surplus of £58,000. This leaves the loss per share at 14.1p against a profit of 2.1p.

The problems were familiar: severe competition in recessionary markets, and with increasing imports and overcapacity at home the difficult trading conditions.

But the company believes its savings and modernization put it in a good position to exploit any upturn. No dividend is proposed this year.

RETAIL PRICES

The following are the index numbers (January 1974 = 100) of retail prices net (seasonally adjusted) issued by the Department of Employment yesterday

	(1) All items	(2) Excl. food, alcohol, tobacco	(3) Annual rate of increase
1979			
Jan	230.9	232.1	22.1
Feb	232.3	234.6	22.6
Mar	235.6	238.9	23.5
Apr	237.7	240.3	23.2
May	238.4	240.3	23.2
1980			
Jan	245.3	249.2	14.6
Feb	248.8	248.9	15.3
Mar	250.8	250.8	15.3
Apr	250.8	250.8	22.2
May	250.8	250.8	22.2
June	252.7	252.1	23.3
July	257.9	256.3	19.6
Aug	258.5	270.5	17.3

Briefly

Nordia & Peacock: Turnover for half year to June 30, £157.5m (£129.7m). Taxable profit, £2.7m (£3.3m). Dividend 2.6p (2.1p) gross.

Montfort (Knitting Mills): Turnover for half year to June 30, £5.21m (£5.34m). Pretax profit, £82,000 (£88,000). Interim 1.0p (1.25p) net.

Compo Holdings: Pre-tax profit for year to March, 1980, £277,000. Tax £95,000. Dividend 1.5p. EPS 8.8p.

A. and C. Black: Turnover for half year to June 30, £1.281m (£1.214m). Pretax profit £5,000 (£7,000). Dividend 0.6p (4.7p). Interim dividend, 0.71p gross (3.71p). Board considers it unlikely that group will show a profit for the whole year.

London and Liverpool Trust: Net Revenue for year to March 30, £31,500 (£24,000). Eps 0.57p (0.85p). Nav 19.7p (21.35p). No dividend. 5 per cent of the workforce, were £2m for the year. But the company has sold and is in the process of selling properties.

C. H. Industrial: Chairman, Mr Tim Hearnley, told annual meeting that sharp drop in demand is affecting current trading, and it is likely that first-half group results will show a marked reduction compared with last year.

Charles Cluff Industries: Sales for six months to June 30, £5.3m (£5.3m). Loss attributable to shareholders, £574,000 (profit £2,384,000). Loss per share 21.7p (earnings, 17p). Board says break-even position has since been reached and further improvement expected next year.

Thomas Borthwick and Sons is selling its shares in Canterbury Frozen Meat of New Zealand to Imperial Chemicals. The shares will be taken up by institutional investors and marketing arrangements with CFI are continuing.

George Ingham and Co (Holdings): Turnover for half year to June 30, £1.63m (£1.09m). Loss £21,000 (profit £25,000). No interim dividend.

LBIT's £2m subsidiary bid

By Our Financial Staff

Private company Le Bas Investment Trust is making a £2.2m cash offer for its 83 per cent held quoted subsidiary, Edward Le Bas. The pile driving equipment manufacturer's shares were suspended on August 14 pending the bid. Dealings will resume on Monday. The bid is being made through Burch Holdings, another Le Bas Investment Trust (LBIT) subsidiary. The terms are £2.2m cash for an ordinary share, and 75p for each preference share. Acceptances from LBIT and two directors of Edward Le Bas (ELB) total 57.7 per cent. ELB shareholders get a maintained dividend of 16.13p gross. Its interim pretax profits to June 28 were £514,000.

Appleyard plunges into loss

By Our Financial Staff

The Appleyard Group of Companies, the Leeds-based car distributors and retailers, reports the most difficult year in its history with last year's small profit margins collapsing to heavy losses. BL trading operations were the main problem.

The interim dividend has been passed and the possibility of a final is not in sight. The interim dividend last year was 3.2p.

An intensive rationalization programme has seen the closure of all car sales and services in Glasgow, a drastic reduction of car hire activities, and a concentration of those in Edinburgh into one site, Mr Ian Appleyard, the chairman, said yesterday.

Costs of the programme, which included 600 redundancies, were £2m for the year. But the company has sold and is in the process of selling properties worth £2m against a book value of £16m. This, together with strict cash controls, should lower the level of borrowings for the current year. On a sales turnover that dropped from £70m to £66m for the first six months to June 30, a pretax loss of £845,000 was recorded against a pretax profit of £988,000 for the same period last year. Interest charges took £1m against £684,000 and the loss from businesses now being closed is £510,000.

Despite the overall group results, Rolls-Royce, Ford, fuel oil, commercial vehicles and hire activities have all traded profitably. The losses came from BL trading. A Ford depot, on a 2.3 acre site in Newcastle-under-Lyme, opened in July.

The company started making losses in the last six months of last year, but a brief upturn in January and February saw car sales move up 7 per cent aided by discount offers. This disguises the effect of the hire activities which have been squeezed still further and the real collapse came in April, May and June when sales were down by 30 per cent for each month.

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Best-ever dividends from Gencor gold mines

By Michael Prest

Mining Correspondent
In the wake of first-half net earnings virtually tripling to £126m (£70m), Gencor, formerly General Mining and Union Corporation, has declared record September dividends from its gold mines.

Compared with last year, St Helena's dividend is more than doubled at 418 cents. Bracken is up 19 cents to 47 cents. Kinross 75 cents to 107 cents. Leslie 13 cents to 31 cents and Winklabak 134 cents to 259 cents.

The only dividend not to rise is that declared by Unisel, which remains at 40 cents. This is only the second payment from Unisel, which is a new mine, and is in accordance with the company's stated policy of using half of what would normally go to dividends to pay off loans.

Unisel, whose borrowings currently stand at around R80m, wants to complete repayment within its first holiday. This is expected to be about two years.

The full payments for March and September together, compared with 1979, are: Bracken 84 cents (£2), Kinross 191 (£74), Leslie 60 (£32), St Helena 723 (£300), Unisel 80, and Winklabak 453 (£205).

Norvic £500,000 in red midway

Norvic Securities, the building company that takes in Norvic and Mansfield shoes, suffered a £540,000 pretax loss in the first half of this year against a £105,900 profit last time. Turnover was down from £8m to £7.2m.

The Northampton factory will be closed in October with losses and redundancy expenses of £330,000.

The Mansfield factory made an operating loss of £200,000 in the period and these losses are continuing in the second half.

After the restructuring, only a moderate improvement in order volume may mean a return to profitability next year. The balance sheet this year will be helped by a revaluation surplus



Mr Ian Appleyard, chairman of Appleyard

Bank Base Rates

BN Bank	16%
Claytons	16%
ICI	16%
Unisolvated Creds	16%
Hoare & Co	16%
oyds Bank	16%
idland Bank	16%
Westminster	16%
msminster	16%
IB	16%
illiams and Glyn's	16%

7 day deposit on basis of £10,000, 14 day, 16%, 28 day, 16.5%, 3 month, 17%.

counts prepared under provision of SSAPIS.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
128 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-821 1212

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Commodities

Sugar futures at highest since June

A strong market with prices at their highest levels since mid-June characterized yesterday's performance in "Raw" sugar futures. March, November and December contracts rose to a high of \$40.50, but the market closed well down from the "highs," due to belated long liquidation, to pare on-balance gains to \$10.50 to \$6.55 per ton. Futures traded 200-250 contracts. The market closed \$12.25 up.

The morning markets had posted average gains of \$26 1/2 with positions from March, 1981, onward locked in at a \$20 1/2 limit advance from Thursday's close.

The respective turnovers were 7,785 and 737 lots.

Dealers said heavy commission, chart and trade support for much of the day continued to be a major representation of substantial - consumer - buying interest in sugar from the world market, particularly China, Poland and Venezuela. Also affecting sentiment was the news of a decision by delay, sub-scale beet crop harvesting until Sept. 20.

The Bank of England gave help on an exceptionally large scale yesterday as the £370m "call" that fell due on 12 per cent Treasury, 1987, drained the market of funds and put paid to the less difficult conditions that the discount market had been enjoying for the past week or two. The discount houses closed at around 15 1/2 per cent.

Foreign exchange markets spent a quiet day yesterday with rates holding reasonably steady ahead of the weekend and the meeting of the Group of Seven in Vienna starting on Monday.

Sterling finished 20 points better against the dollar at \$2.4475, \$2.4475.

The effective exchange rate index was finally unchanged at 100, having touched 100.1 at the opening and at midday.

Dealers said that after all the speculation about United Kingdom interest rates, most operators were settling back, waiting for a chance to bet on the pound's ability to be a move to accept a "basket" of currencies as payment for oil.

The London Eurodollar rates helped to steady the market, with the 12-month rate falling from 12 1/2 to 12 1/4 per cent prime rate yesterday afternoon had been fully paid.

The dollar closed at 100.1, the currency closed under the best-

	Marketrates (day's range)	Marketrates (close)		Marketrates (close)
New York	September 12	September 12	1 month	3 3/4
Montreal	95.4085-11.00	95.4085-11.00	1 1/2-6.00c prem	5 3/4
Amsterdam	25.7975-8080	32.3010-8025	2-4 1/4c prem	5 1/4
Frankfurt	4.609-6091	4.609-6121	2-1 1/2c prem	5 1/4
Copenhagen	13.27-344	13.23-244	2-1 1/2c prem	5 1/4
Dublin	1.1240-1250	1.1280-1285p	2-1 1/2c prem	102
Frankfurt	119.20-204	119.20-204	2-1 1/2c prem	48
Lisbon	119.20-204	119.20-204	2-1 1/2c prem	48
Madrid	176.50-80p	176.50-80p	2-1 1/2c prem	168
Milan	20.20-204	20.20-204	2-1 1/2c prem	168
Oslo	11.61-63p	11.63-64p	2-1 1/2c prem	168
Paris	9.87-10.02p	9.87-10.02p	2-1 1/2c prem	168
Stockholm	51.21-21p	51.21-21p	2-1 1/2c prem	168
Tokyo	51.21-21p	51.21-21p	2-1 1/2c prem	168
Vienna	30.35-40csh	30.40-45csh	2-1 1/2c prem	168
Zurich	5.92-62p	5.92-62p	2-1 1/2c prem	168

Effective exchange rate compared to December 31, 1971, was 70.2 units

	Bank of England	Morgan Guaranty Intl. Changes	Rates
Sterling	-76.2	+29.8	Ireland 2.160-2.158
US dollar	82.1	-	Canada 1.802-1.800
Canadian dollar	82.5	-17.0	Netherlands 1.032-1.030
Schilling	136.1	+24.4	Austria 55-55.25
Belgian franc	115.1	+13.3	Denmark 5.507-5.505
Danish kroner	134.4	-	West Germany 1.779-1.777
Deutsche mark	154.4	+43.6	Portugal 49.40-50
Swiss franc	198.1	+30.1	Spain 17.3-17.31
Guilder	106.1	+10.6	Italy 845.50-847.00
French franc	101.0	+4.0	UK 190-192
Lira	52.6	+31.6	France 13.45-13.46
Yen	133.6	+31.1	A 1490-1491.5
			B 212.80-212.9
			C 151-151.25

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement, December, 1971.

	ECU central bank rates	currency unit of account	% change from 1994 rate*	% change from adjusted rate*	divergence unit of p.m. index
Belgian franc	30.7897	40.5904	+0.04	+0.33	1.53
Danish krone	7.2326	1.82373	+1.30	+0.36	2.94
German D-mark	2.48208	2.48208	+1.48	+0.45	1.53
Irish punt	1.27776	1.27776	+0.04	+0.24	28.57
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.74748	+0.22	+1.14	1.312
Irish punt	0.686201	0.67695	+0.52	+0.42	965
Italian lira	1.93627	1.93627	+0.97	+0.27	4.79

* % changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes we currency is stronger than the ECU.
 * adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's weight in the ECU.
 * Adjusted calculated by The Times.

Euro-\$ Deposits

1% call, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ -10 $\frac{1}{2}$; seven days,
10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -10 $\frac{1}{2}$; one month, 11-11 $\frac{1}{2}$;
three months, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -11 $\frac{1}{2}$; six
months, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

10% calls, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ -10 $\frac{1}{2}$; seven days,
10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -10 $\frac{1}{2}$; one month, 11-11 $\frac{1}{2}$;
three months, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -11 $\frac{1}{2}$; six
months, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

2 prem		
5c prem		
premi	Australia	2.0500-2.0650
premi	Bahrain	0.9100-0.9150
30c disc	Finland	8.7300-8.7750
disc	Greece	15.100-15
disc	Hongkong	11.9145-11.9545
disc	Iran	Not available
disc	Kuwait	0.6420-0.6450
disc	Malaysia	0.5750-0.1050
disc	Maldives	54.7-56.2
disc	New Zealand	2.4350-2.4355
disc	Saudi Arabia	7.0025-8.0223
disc	Singapore	5.0850-5.1150
disc	South Africa	1.8030-1.8210
disc		
disc		

Bank of England MLR 16%
(Last changed 2/7/80)
(Tearing Banks Base Rate 16%)
Discount Mkt. Loans %
Weekend Rate 15% Low 15%
Week Fixed: 15%-15%

Treasury Bills (Dis-)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	14%	2 months	14%
3 months	14%	3 months	14%

Prime Bank Bills (Dis-), Trades (Dis-)

2 months	15%-15 1/4%	3 months	15%
3 months	15-14%	4 months	15%

4 months - 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 6 months 14 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 months 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -

4 months	15%-15 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 months	14%-14 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 months	15%-15	11 months	14%-14 $\frac{1}{2}$
6 months	15%-14 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 months	14%-14 $\frac{1}{2}$

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (6-1)

1 month	16%-15 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 months	16%-15 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 months	15%-15 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 months	17%-15 $\frac{1}{2}$

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	16%	3 months	15%
7 days	16%	6 months	15
1 month	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 year	14%

Interbank Market (%)

Weekend: Open: 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -18 $\frac{1}{2}$	Close: 16 $\frac{1}{2}$		
1 week	16%-15 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 months	15-14 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 month	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ -16 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 months	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ -16 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 months	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -15 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 months	14-13 $\frac{1}{2}$

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%).	
3 months 16½	6 months 15½
Finance House Base Rate 16½.	
Treasury Bill-Tender	
Applications £573m	allotted £200m
Bids at: £98.40	received 35%
Last week £96.32	received 92%
Average rate 14.4624%	Last week 14.7824%
Next week £200m	replace £300m

WILLIAMS STREET

New York, Sept. 12.—Domestic and gas issues were among the gains in a mostly dull market. Interest rate and inflationaries left stocks mixed in a very reading.

expectations of an oil price increase from the Opec meeting last week in Vienna raised domestic oil issues and put pressure on the multinationals. Analysts said a price hike would increase the value of domestic

ne D-J Industrial average lost 10 points to close at 936.52, but prices led declines by a small gain as volume expanded to 1 million shares from 44.77 million yesterday.

part from the oil-price worry, the market has faced other disheartening inflation news, this week, including jumps in whole- and precious metals prices, a disappointing United States crop forecast.

Bank raised its prime rate 2 1/2 per cent from 12 per cent. Large banks including Manufacturers Hanover, Chemical Bank and BankAmerica.

features closed, between 12 to 29
higher on last-minute book squar-
before. Monday's Opec meeting

ER: Sept.	2,050-3,050.00	Oct.	
0.00	Nov.	2,115.00	Dec.
0.00-110.00	Jan.	2,167.00	
2,230.00	Mar.	4,260.00	
0.00	July.	2,115.00	Sept.
0.00	Dec.	2,405.00	Jan.
0.00	March	2,514.00	May.

3.0c:	July, 2,647.0c:		
0:	Sept., 5,681.0:	Oct, 5,684.0:	
0:	Nov., 5,695.0:	Dec, 5,703.0:	
0:	Feb, 5,721.0:	Jan, 5,723.0:	April
0:	May, 5,740.0:	June, 5,758.0:	759.0:
0:	July, 5,776.0:	Oct, 5,791.0:	Dec,
1:	Feb, 5,835.2:	April, 5,852.6:	
	5,872.2:		

PER: Sept. 94.65; Oct. 95.70;
'96.53c Dec. 97.20-'97.70c; Jan.
March, 99.85-100.50c; May
July: 103.60c and Sept.
rds.

PAR: Futures closed at the limit
per cent up for the second day
in response to recent reports
re export sales. The unrestricted
October reached a life of contract
of 38.33c a pound before closing

roll-taking to close at 37.77c, or
nb. Floor brokers sold specula-
tively also arose from worries
of a possibly poor Russian bid
after a decision to delay full
sales until September 20., Oct.
35.77.95c; Jan. 36.58c; March.
36.57c; May, 37.35c; July, 56.77c;
35.99c; Oct. 35.40c; Jan. 33.43c;
Sept. 104.00-99.90c; Dec.

24.55-25.00; March, 24.05-24.25;
 24.55-23.77c; July, 25.00-24.17c;
 25.50-24.67c; Dec. 25.50-25.12c;
 UN: Oct. 97.77c; Dec. 96.96c;
 96.97c; May, 96.87c; July,
 96.97c; Oct. 88.90c; Dec. 84.50c.
 FEE: Futures closed after a quiet
 session at or near the day's lows.
 between 1.86 and 3.21 cents.
 market continued to slide in after-
 trading as locals and commission
 liquidated long positions.
 FEE: Sept. 126.00c; Dec. 132.20c.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

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BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
BELL'S

[illegible]

Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing

Regular readers of this page may have noticed that, as far as I am concerned, a girl's best friend is not a houseplant. Flawless and shrubby and leafy things are thoroughly desirable outside—I even manage to cultivate a sprig or two myself with some modest success. But put a plant in a pot and the effect is that of putting an otherwise normal human being

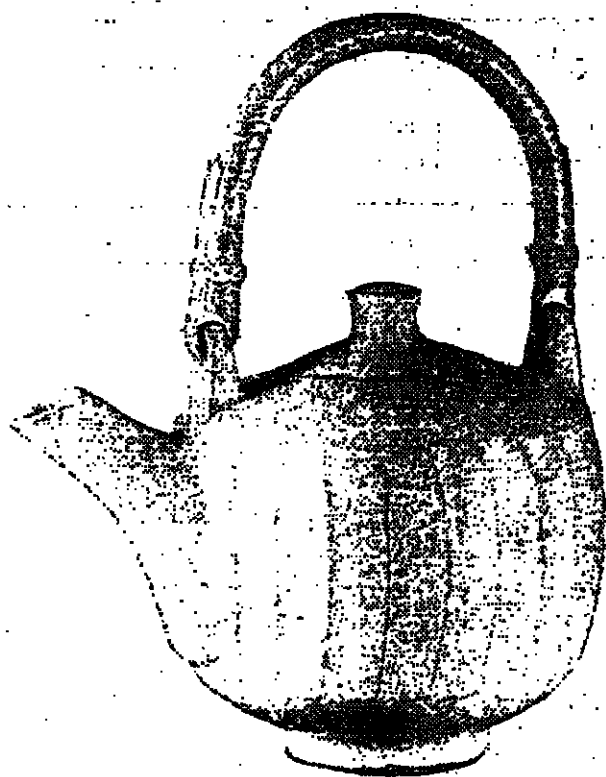
in a ticket office. It immediately becomes officious. However, while filling a country house with pot plants seems on the superficial side, I quite understand leaf-hungry Londoners trying to turn every room into a miniature Kew, even though I maintain that if God had intended us to live in a jungle for ever He would have let us keep our hair on and given us a few more bananas.

Still, for the benefit of those who believe that vegetation should be viewed and not chewed, I have been looking at *The House Plant Expert* by David Messayon, published by PBI Publications at £1.95 and recommended this week by our gardening expert Roy Hay. I particularly enjoyed the tips on what to do when things go wrong, which implies that

I am not the only one to cultivate brown and shrivelled leaves, and the large A to Z section identifying all the species and giving notes on their thoroughly inflexible preferences. It is all very informative and certainly not Dr Messayon's fault that I still view pot plants with grave suspicion.

Ever since it became fashionable to measure the ability of plants to communicate I have felt threatened. I even find the language people use about them positively sinister. I don't want plants to "make statements" or even whisper sweet nothings, and to me anything that calls itself "architectural" is admitting that it is inclined to grow out of all proportion, is the sort of thing interior designers use when they can't afford a Hepworth and anyway is nothing short of hideous.

It is probably all to do with reading about the Triffids at too tender an age and I am sure your communication with your plants is on a much more sensitive level. If so, don't leave my remarks anywhere near one of your prize specimens. I haven't actually yet heard of plants reading, but you can't be too careful.



A solus exhibition of work by David Leach opens at the Craftsman Pottery Shop, William Blake House, Marshall Street, London W1, on Tuesday and will continue until September 27. The teapot illustrated shows one of his particular skills in glazing and chiselling a clay surface—a technique he also uses on bowls, cups and jars.

Pattern coordination within a single colour grouping is a design concept much favoured by interior designers and the manufacturers of the more expensive ranges of fabrics and wall papers who offer plains, florals, geometrics and border designs in toning shades of the same colour.

Now the idea has been taken into the DIY market by Kingfisher Wallcoverings, who this month have produced a new collection of ready pasted vinyl wallcoverings in 27 designs, each featured in a pattern book divided into seven basic colour themes—blue, green, russet, brown, yellow, pink and peaches and cream.

In each group there are various designs which relate to one another. An all-over floral, for instance, has a companion design with similar flowers grouped into bouquets, or will blend equally well with a traditional stripe in the same tones, or with a plain colour with a textured linen finish. You simply decide on your colour and make your selection to suit your furnishings, traditional or modern.

The idea is based on the fact that 70 per cent of customers put colour first: when they choose a wallcovering, presumably the other 30 per cent are rich and don't count the cost, poor and have no existing furnishings to impose restrictions, or American and brain-washed into throwing everything away every five years.

If you are none of these but simply want to have a change of scene and are prudent enough to realize that the most expensive part of decorating is the labour charge, then ready-pasted vinyl is undoubtedly one of the simplest ways for the amateur to achieve even results and this new Kingfisher collection, called Moods, has an attractive plain finish which is less obtrusive than the shiner variety.

I particularly liked a design called Adele, which features delicate gazebos set in stylized landscapes of hills, trees and flowers. It comes in three colours: a cream ground, a blue ground, and a cream ground with a blue pattern. You can see it in one of the Kingfisher pattern books available at branches of the Chain, F&S, Dodge City, Decca, Mecca. Prices are around £6-7 a roll.



The latest picture jumpers by Jeff Dillon come in fine or chunky acrylic knits. Right, style 8725 is an Italian hand-knit showing a house and landscape and comes on backgrounds of white, black burgundy, dusky blue or dusky pink at £17.75. Left, the room set picture is on backgrounds of navy or natural, style 87, at £9.99. Both are in medium size only from Males, 356 Oxford Street and main branches.

The idea of acquiring a skill that can be practised at home, will be an absorbing money-saving hobby and may also develop into a source of income is undeniably attractive. Unfortunately many crafts that qualify on all three counts do need a certain amount of artistic ability which many of us do not have the self-confidence even to discover in ourselves, let alone exploit.

The technique of restoring antique ceramics, however, requires dexterity and patience rather than a creative talent, at least at the basic level of repairing broken pieces. Obviously, the more advanced restoration work involving the remodelling of missing parts does demand sculpting skills, but even those who cannot pursue the technique to such a level can still find simple restoration a profitable pleasure.

The vital missing ingredient is individual instruction. There are excellent full-time courses at the V & A but apart from these the various part-time courses available usually have such large classes that the instruction has to be more in the nature of demonstration than tuition. The alternative is to sit in with a restorer in a shop as an apprentice and learn by watching and being a general dogbody.

Now, however, there is a fourth option. Jana Stuart Jones, one of the country's leading restorers, is running a series of special courses at her Somerset home. She takes only four students at a time, ensuring individual instruction in the methods she has developed over 17 years and which bring

antique dealers from all parts of this country and the United States to seek her expert touch.

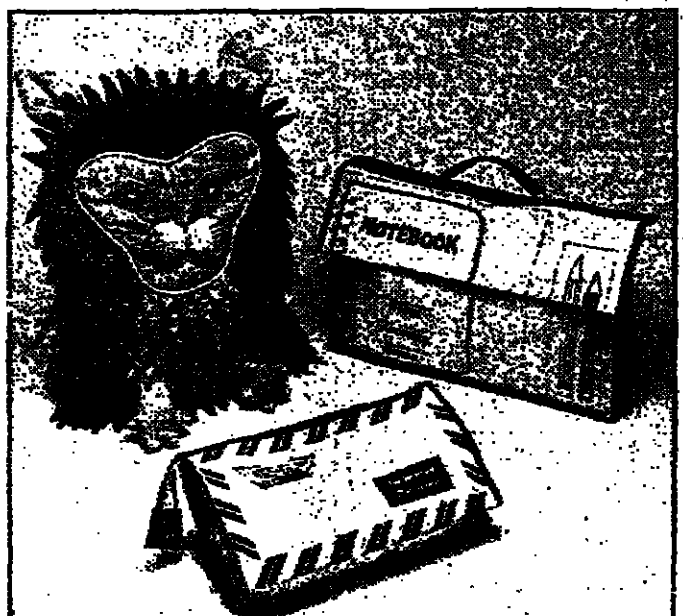
There are two courses—the five-day introductory which covers stripping, cleaning and bleaching, sticking, making up chips in self-coloured materials, filling cracks and making up small missing pieces. The ten-day comprehensive course adds pegging, taking moulds, the free modelling of missing pieces, casting sections, knobs, handles and a small amount of spray painting.

"I don't like painted repairs—they don't fool anybody," says Jana Stuart Jones. "I prefer to teach students to do a good cosmetic repair without paint and I am not pretending that anyone can become an expert restorer in 10 days. But with a basic course and six months' practice most of my students can achieve a reasonable standard of repair work."

A special feature of both courses is that they include a follow-up weekend, held six weeks after the initial instruction, when students can bring practice pieces for critical assessment.

The cost of the courses reflects the possibility of lucrative results. The introductory course is £150, the comprehensive £280. Both include all materials, the follow-up weekend, light lunches and coffees. They do not cover accommodation, which can be provided at an extra charge.

The next comprehensive course starts on October 5 with a follow-up weekend on November 28-30. For details of future courses write to Jana Stuart Jones, Old School, Sawell, Bridgewater, Somerset.



Child's bedroom set—colourful lion pyjama case (early to bed) £11.60. Par Avon pencil case (get your homework done) or sponge bag (wash behind the ears) £1.47; school case with printed notebook front (get me to the class on time) £2.50. All from The Tree House, 237 Kensington High Street, London W8. 50p p&p on each item.

Summer this year was a cumin in about August 9 and a goin' out about 18 days later, give or take a day or two. But there can be no argument about its successor. When the Habitat catalogue is published you know autumn has arrived.

The new one is full of interesting ideas, among them a range of furniture called Tech, which is based on industrial style steel tubing with a matt black finish. The armchairs, £120, and two-seater sofa, £185, have tubular frames and are covered in charcoal coloured cotton, and there is a matching trolley at £27.50, with shelves of perforated steel sheet, which would make a good audio storage unit, telephone table or mobile coffee table. These are available now, as is a smart new black version of Habitat's popular enamel two-pint coffee pot (£3.75) and half-pint mugs (90p each).

Another new seating line called Sorby is one of the simplest and most compact versions yet of a sofa-bed. The basic unit is an armless seat built on a plywood frame and covered in quilted cotton to match the covering of the poly-

ether foam cushions for seat and back. These are attached to each other and simply fold out on to the floor to make a 6ft 2in bed. The units can be bolted together to make continuous seating or they can be enclosed at each end with arm panels to make single chairs or multi-seat sofas.

Each unit is 30in wide and costs £99. The armchairs are £35, so a single armchair would cost £134, a two-seater sofa £233. The covering is in red or beige Cotton Clean plain fabric, which is supposed to resist stains and spills. I poured several glasses of red wine, coffee and blackcurrant juice on the sample I had and, true enough, each liquid simply lay on the surface without penetrating and could be mopped up without leaving a mark.

The Sorby units, which pass both the match and cigarette flame-resistance test required from October, will be on show in Habitat stores from the end of September and can be ordered through the catalogue, which costs 75p, from the Habitat Design Ltd, PO Box 2, Withercroft Road, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 9DQ.

To go with her glamorous lingerie Janet Reger has just produced a collection of satin slippers as gait as evening shoes. This style, Carrot, comes in sizes 4 to 7 in burgundy, chestnut brown, green or black, all trimmed in gold. £28.50 from Janet Reger at 2 Beauchamp Place, London, and 12 New Bond Street, London W1. Mail order for art extra £1 p&p.

Photograph by Karen Crad

Do you know the difference between acrylic and modacrylic, whether to wash acetate on the same programme as elastane, whether you can dye polyester? There are so many brand names for man-made fibres these days that you need a chemistry degree to do the weekly wash and there is not much point in having labels that identify fibre content if the sum of the parts is more confusing than the whole.

The British Man-made Fibres Federation, however, have come to the rescue with two booklets. The larger, *Guide to Man-made Fibres*, identifies the types, discusses their uses, explains briefly how they are made and has a few paragraphs on home sewing, stain removal and dyeing.

A small leaflet, *Man-made Fibres and You*, gives particularly helpful machine washing information. For a free copy of each write to the British Man-made Fibres Federation, 24 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB.

Also on the subject of clean-

ing, a colleague asked the other day whether it was possible to have silk lampshades dry-cleaned. So far I have drawn a complete blank—none of the chain cleaners will tackle them. Sketchley says it was once possible to do it by hand, with white spirit, but that modern chemicals have to be used in enclosed drums which are unsuitable for lampshades.

We thought of spray-on cleaners, but Jeeves, the specialist hand-cleaners, warned us that they are likely to leave marks on silk. I have tried sponging my silk shades, but haven't dared immerse them completely in case the frames stain the fabric.

Can any reader come to the aid of my colleague—and, probably, many other owners of old but well-loved silk shades—by suggesting a successful home-remedy?

Walk into Simpson's of Piccadilly any time during the next fortnight and among the traditional tailoring, you will find an Aston Martin Lagonda, a

new Reliant Scimitar, a TR7 convertible, a power that won't turn over an child's racing car. Not much but the real thing.

They are all part of a British Enterprise exhibition stage, Simpson's "to overcome some of today's gloom and to recognize the achievement of many of Britain's most standing companies". The ducts of 52 companies and the colleges will be exhibited of eight floors of the store.

British Airways are showing new lightweight, space-suitcraft seat, British Rail a model of the 130 mph passenger train they will be launching October. On the fashion floor there will be D&G tailoring by computers and the Smiths Company will be showing refractory metal jewelry, titanium, titanium and steel.

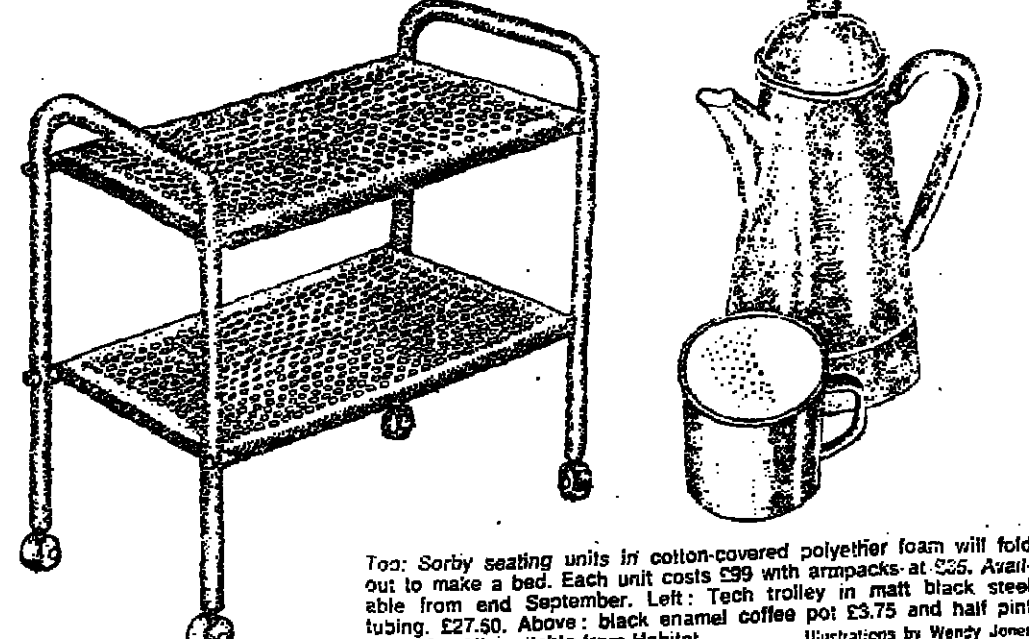
All the displays will be accompanied by video film still photographs with information for the technical minded. The exhibition will open from Monday to Saturday, September 27.

It was not fun in the bath last night. There was accompanied as usual by John Roberts (via *The Financial World*, *Tonight*) juggling with balls and bears while I played with my dolphin, frog and turtle. I was not backing in a menagerie but simply doing a little one-woman research on your behalf—my aquatic friends had purported to be floating soap, and they were, most attractively, in boxes which depicted their contents in bright colours and as endearing cartoon characters. Alas, when opened—and you don't usually open a box of soap to examine the contents while you are in the shop—they turned out to be mono-coloured, unimaginatively designed and a bitter disappointment. The turtle managed to keep only one leg above water and the frog and the dolphin ignominiously took a nose-dive straight to the bottom.

To the children for whom they are intended they would be a miserable letdown and if I had anything to do with trade descriptions I would come down on the French manufacturers like a ton of their own leaden product. It may be that time had come from a bad batch, but until the makers get it right every time £1.25 is too much to pay for sinking soap.



The week's worst buy—floating soap that



Top: Sorby seating units in cotton-covered polyether foam will fold out to make a bed. Each unit costs £99 with armchairs at £35. Available from end September. Left: Tech trolley in matt black steel tubing, £27.50. Above: black enamel coffee pot £3.75 and half pint mug 90p. All available from Habitat.

Illustrations by Wendy Jones

HOME & GARDEN

1 2 3

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1. The new modular convertible sofas are available in a wide range of styles and colours. They are designed to be comfortable and practical, and can be used in a variety of ways. 2. The new modular convertible sofas are available in a wide range of styles and colours. They are designed to be comfortable and practical, and can be used in a variety of ways. 3. The new modular convertible sofas are available in a wide range of styles and colours. They are designed to be comfortable and practical, and can be used in a variety of ways.

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NEW SOAP FROM OLD. SPECIAL OFFER ONLY 7p per bar. Tel: 01-226 5566.

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To avoid any unnecessary wastage of newspaper, The Times has reduced the number of copies offered for casual sale. Tel: 01-226 5566.

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THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS ONE CLEAR PUBLISHING DAY

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Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication.

For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday.

On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser.

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£12.00 per cm full display, minimum 5cm.

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£4.00 per line

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£2.25.

(Jesse and Jack 11: 22)

BIRTHS

BERNARD—On September 10th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

BLUNDEN—On September 10th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Blunden, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

BOLLAND—On September 11th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Bolland, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

COHEN—On September 11th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

DREWRY—On September 11th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Drewry, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

1980 Cutty Sark/Times National Crossword Championship

The National Final of the Championship will take place 1.30-5.30 p.m. tomorrow, at the Europa Hotel, Admission £1.50 a head.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,321

ACROSS

1 London hosts of it hitherto (5)

2 Saucy battle (5)

3 Triest's pie (5)

4 No more by poor Denis, though in proper position (5)

5 She has more twist than taff and than Tom Pearce's grey mare (5)

6 Flower from a nettle (5)

7 Money in notes from Lud-wan (5)

8 A moon buggy left there with such delicacy (5)

9 He loves a change of order (5)

10 Such is Nelson's posthumous stature (5)

11 Dawn kick-off for them? (5)

12 Such was Le Belle Dame's sort (5)

13 Who gets a smack from the char? (5)

14 Horologist-cum-locksmith's double guard (5, 3, 4)

DOWN

1 But a self-peddled start to the Barkings talk? (7)

2 One doctor is a big man in Wales (5)

3 He is in charge of a House of Correction? (5)

4 Joyous scamper of feet (4)

5 Fatted and port (5)

BIRTHS

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GRUPP—On September 11th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Grupp, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

HUGHES—On September 11th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

SWAN—On September 11th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Swan, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

TUDOR—On September 11th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Tudor, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

WILLIAMS—On September 11th, at the Victoria Hospital, the wife of Mr. and Mrs. Williams, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, gave birth to a son, David.

BIRTHDAYS

50th BIRTHDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Williams, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, celebrate the 50th birthday of their son, David.

MARRIAGES

Mr. and Mrs. Williams, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, are married to their son, David.

DEATHS

Mr. and Mrs. Williams, of 11, St. John's Road, London, N.W.1, have lost their son, David.

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